

HB 929 with HCA 1 -- PUBLIC UTILITIES

SPONSOR: Fraker

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with Amendments" by the Standing Committee on Utility Infrastructure by a vote of 9 to 7.

This bill specifies that the jurisdiction, supervision, powers, and duties of the Public Service Commission extend to the adoption of rules and regulations governing the relationship between water and energy public utilities to effectuate potential energy savings.

HCA 1: Specifies that energy efficiency savings must apply to meters and pumps

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that the Missouri Public Service Commission currently has authority to implement energy efficiency rules, but requested some clarification. Refurbishing and replacing pumps can result in significant savings for customers and benefit the environment.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Fraker and Missouri American Water.

OPPOSERS: Those who oppose the bill say that it is unclear and might be misinterpreted by the courts. It could be used to argue for the "decoupling" of repair costs from the normal rate procedures used by the commission.

Testifying against the bill was Fair Energy Rate Action Fund.