HB 637 -- Utilities

Sponsor: Dempsey

This bill requires utilities regulated by the Missouri Public Service Commission to credit a customer's account \$50 or \$100, depending on the length of outage, plus the actual cost of damages caused by the power outage to residential customers whose electrical service has been interrupted for at least 48 hours. The commission will have discretion to waive the credits.

Beginning January 1, 2008, if there are three or more power failures in a single service area during a single year, electrical utilities must pay a fine of \$2,000 per residential customer for each day without power starting on the third day of the third period of at least 48 hours without power. These fines will be distributed to the appropriate public school district by the county commission and are not subject to waiver by the Missouri Public Service Commission. All proceedings and complaints will be resolved by the procedures specified in Chapter 386, RSMo.