FIRST REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE BILL NO. 1038

101ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE KNIGHT.

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DANA RADEMAN MILLER, Chief Clerk

AN ACT

To amend chapter 386, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to low-income rate authorization for water and sewer corporations.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Chapter 386, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new section, to be known as section 386.264, to read as follows:

- 386.264. 1. In any general rate proceeding for a water corporation or sewer corporation, the commission may authorize a Low-Income Rate Assistance (LIRA) program for eligible residential customers of the water corporation or sewer corporation upon a determination that the program is in the public interest, provided the cost of the program is fully recovered through customer rates.
- 2. The aggregate impact of any LIRA program shall be limited to no more than one-half of one percent of the total revenue requirement allocated to the residential customer class used to set rates. The commission shall not require any water or sewer corporation to verify the financial status of its customers and shall permit water and sewer corporations to rely on a third party or community agency to verify any eligibility requirements approved by the commission in order for a residential customer to qualify for the LIRA program approved under this section.
- 3. The commission may promulgate rules to implement the provisions of this section. Any rule or portion of a rule, as that term is defined in section 536.010, that is created under the authority delegated in this section shall become effective only if it complies with and is subject to all of the provisions of chapter 536 and, if applicable, section 536.028. This section and chapter 536 are nonseverable, and if any of the powers

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18 vested with the general assembly pursuant to chapter 536 to review, to delay the effective

- 19 date, or to disapprove and annul a rule are subsequently held unconstitutional, then the
- 20 grant of rulemaking authority and any rule proposed or adopted after August 28, 2021,

21 shall be invalid and void.

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