



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: SB 44		DATE: 4/26/2021	
COMMITTEE: Utilities			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: CHRISTINE PAGE		PHONE NUMBER: 314-640-5967	
REPRESENTING: MISSOURI AMERICAN WATER		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: 727 CRAIG ROAD			
CITY: ST LOUIS		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63141
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 4/26/2021 12:00 AM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			



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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: KARA CORCHES		PHONE NUMBER: 573-634-3511	
REPRESENTING: MISSOURI CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: 428 EAST CAPITOL AVENUE			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65101
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 4/26/2021 12:00 AM	
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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: RAY MCCARTY		PHONE NUMBER: 573-634-2246	
REPRESENTING: ASSOCIATED INDUSTRIES OF MISSOURI		TITLE: PRESIDENT/CEO	
ADDRESS: 3234 W. TRUMAN BLVD.			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65109
EMAIL: rmccarty@aimo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 4/26/2021 10:52 AM

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We believe the provisions of the bill changing the treatment of pipes and tanks as personal property, rather than real property, along with allowing depreciation of those assets, more accurately describes the nature of the property and is fairer for property tax purposes than treating such pipes and tanks as real property.



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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: REBECCA EICHELBERGER		PHONE NUMBER: 573-230-1458	
REPRESENTING: ASSOCIATION OF MISSOURI ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: 2722 EAST MCCARTY			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65101
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 4/26/2021 12:00 AM	
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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: SHANNON COOPER		PHONE NUMBER: 660-890-1432	
REPRESENTING: CONSTRUCTION EMPLOYERS COALITION		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: 208 MADISON			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65101
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 4/26/2021 12:00 AM	

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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: WILLIAM GAMBLE		PHONE NUMBER: 573-634-4876	
REPRESENTING: GREATER ST LOUIS INC		TITLE: REGISTERED LOBBYIST	
ADDRESS: PO BOX 1865			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65102
EMAIL: bill@molobby.com	ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 4/26/2021 10:57 AM	
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: ARNIE C. "HONEST-ABE" DIENOFF-STATE PUBLIC ADVOCAT		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: arniedienoff@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 4/26/2021 2:46 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

I am totally Opposed to this Bill, its Intent and its abuse on Missourians in the Name of Profits. This Bill Highly Favors the Big Utility Companies and Mainly "Missouri American Water Company." This Bill and its Legislation screw Our Six (6) Missourian Utility Consumers. This Bill takes away Rights of Missourians and takes away Oversight from the State Public Service Commission (P.S.C.) Defeat and Kill this Bad Bill!



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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: DAVID WOODSMALL		PHONE NUMBER: 573-797-0005	
REPRESENTING: MIDWEST ENERGY CONSUMERS GROUP		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: 308 EAST HIGH STREET, SUITE 204			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65101
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 4/26/2021 12:00 AM	
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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: MICHAEL BERG		PHONE NUMBER: 314-644-1011	
REPRESENTING: SIERRA CLUB MISSOURI CHAPTER		TITLE: SIERRA CLUB MISSOURI CHAPTER POLITICAL DIRECTOR	
ADDRESS: 2818 SUTTON BLVD			
CITY: SAINT LOUIS		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63146
EMAIL: Michael.Berg@sierraclub.org	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/26/2021 11:48 AM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

A version of this containing footnotes will be submitted to the committee via email. Sierra Club Missouri Chapter has no opinion on most of SB44. We oppose an amendment added on the floor of the Senate (Senate Bill 230, referred to in the bill as Section 67.309) which would preempt local control over future energy use. This would result in negative impacts for communities. On its face, this appears to be an effort by the methane gas industry to stop communities that want to choose a less-polluting energy future. More specifically, this bill is in response to newer building codes being enacted in cities in California and other states which mandate electrification for new construction and prohibit gas hookup. Presently, as far as we know, not one municipality or county in Missouri is considering such an ordinance. This bill is not in response to anything happening in Missouri. It is a preemptive attempt by the methane gas industry to deny communities and their democratically elected leadership the right to make that choice in the future. Twenty-five different mayors and county executives in Missouri have pledged to work towards a transition to 100% renewable energy. They and their constituents are concerned about climate change and other negative effects caused by fossil fuel use. This list includes the leaders of Missouri's most populated places – St. Louis County and multiple municipalities in St. Louis County, St. Louis City, Kansas City and Columbia, as well as St. Joseph, St. Charles, Wentzville and Stockton. City and county councils are working with citizen groups to find a way to transition away from fossil fuels and towards renewable energy. SB 141 would take away a potential future tool for these government officials to meet the goals of their constituents. There are many environmental benefits to moving building energy use away from methane gas to electricity. Burning methane gas, along with smaller amounts of oil and propane, in homes and businesses accounts for about 10% of total U.S. carbon emissions. Electrification immediately reduces greenhouse gas emissions due to the higher efficiency of advanced electric appliances like heat pumps and induction stoves. Heat pumps are three to five times more efficient than gas and electric resistance water heaters and furnaces. The Rocky Mountain Institute found that the upfront costs for new fully electric buildings are as much as 30% cheaper than a combination of electricity and methane gas, even in cold climates. A Pecan Street study of converting homes in Texas from methane gas to air heat pumps concluded that annual energy bill savings could reach \$450. There are important health and safety reasons for why local governments might choose to promote electrification and phase out methane gas consumption. The gas system leaks methane (a greenhouse gas 86 times more potent than carbon dioxide) at the drilling site, along the gas pipelines, at our gas meter, and inside our homes, schools, buildings, and restaurants. Gas appliances in residential and commercial buildings produce nearly seven times more nitrogen oxide (NOx) emissions than gas power plants do. Nitrogen

oxide leads to ozone, commonly called “smog,” which can cause asthma and respiratory diseases. Breathing NO₂ inflames the lining of the lungs and reduces our immunity to lung infections—including COVID19. Researchers have linked even a modest increase in NO₂ pollution exposure to higher COVID19 death rates—meaning, gas stoves may be putting millions of Americans at an elevated risk during the coronavirus pandemic. Stoves with pilot lights add approximately 10 parts per billion to indoor NO₂ levels. Researchers at Emory University linked a 4.6-part-per-billion rise in outdoor NO₂ concentrations with an average 11% increase in COVID-19 fatalities. Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory recently found that air pollution levels in the 60% of homes with gas stoves exceeded the US EPA’s definition of clean air, meaning that the air pollution levels in these homes would be illegal if found outdoors. In California some jurisdictions have been concerned with the dangers of a highly flammable product being piped through earthquake zones. Communities with methane gas pipelines in earthquake-prone areas face an increased risk of fire, since vibration and changes in pipeline tension during seismic events can cause gas leaks. Aging pipelines and associated equipment and inflexible pipeline materials are particularly vulnerable. The California Seismic Safety Commission estimates that up to half of post-earthquake fires are related to gas leaks. Studies have also found that after an earthquake it takes about 3 days to restore electricity to most customers, whereas it can take nearly 3 months to restore gas service to that same portion of customers. Much of Missouri is within a zone with the potential for strong earthquakes. Counties and municipalities should be allowed to examine these issues and make their own decisions about their own energy future for their own communities. Local governments should have the authority to pass policies that reflect and act on their community’s needs and values. When states block communities from passing their own laws, they silence the voices of the people living there and hurt community health and the environment. People are starting to have a better understanding of the impact that fracking and methane gas are having on our communities, where it all happens; people don’t want to be a part of the problem anymore, they want to be a part of the solution. Municipalities and counties are in a good position to determine whether all-electric buildings fit within the character and aesthetics of their town. Right now, there is no statewide building code in Missouri – decisions on codes belong to local governments. State government does not need to intervene to stop a jurisdiction from enacting in the future a specific type of building code. Similar bills have been passed in four states and filed in twelve more. Right now, as far as we know, there are no local governments in Missouri presently planning to transition to electrification. This bill does not originate from anything actually happening in Missouri, but instead is being pushed by monopoly methane gas companies out of fear of ordinances in other states. The oldest codes enacted in other states have been in place for barely a year (and, as we all know, a very strange year). There so far little data on their effect. We contend that this bill is being pushed not out of fear that electrification efforts in other states are a failure, but rather out of fear by gas companies that these efforts successfully meet the goals of the communities that enacted them. If in the future communities in Missouri see the positive effects from these ordinances in other states, they might emulate them by enacting the similar ordinances and reap the same environmental, health and safety benefits. This would be good for local democracy and good for the people living in these jurisdictions, but would also threaten the profits of monopoly gas companies. That is why these gas companies are working to preempt a potential future by supporting this bill and similar bills throughout the country. Please support the right of communities to decide their own energy future. Please either remove this small section from SB 44 or else reject SB 44.



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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: MICHAEL GROTE		PHONE NUMBER: 573-424-5120	
REPRESENTING: BOONE COUNTY MISSOURI		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: PO BOX 638			
CITY: COLUMBIA		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65203
EMAIL: mike@ga2.us	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 4/26/2021 3:18 PM

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Boone County Missouri opposes only 1 portion of this legislation. The amendment added by Senator Koenig Amendment 3 chapter 170. This amendment would cause a loss to the county of more then \$3 Million. Boone County doesn't have a concern with any other portion of the bill.



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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: CHARLES ANDY ARNOLD		PHONE NUMBER:	
REPRESENTING: MISSOURI STATE ASSESSORS ASSOCIATION		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: P. O. BOX 161			
CITY: WRIGHT CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63390
EMAIL: caarnold@arnoldlobby.com	ATTENDANCE: In-Person		SUBMIT DATE: 4/23/2021 2:40 PM
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This change will cost counties a portion of their surcharge tax revenues. Surcharge tax revenues are calculated on real property so a reclassification will cause a reduction in county tax revenue in each county where property is converted. In addition to water and natural gas pipes and tanks, the bill reclassifies pipes and tanks of petroleum suppliers and retailers. This will cause these taxpayers to have to provide an annual personal property statement, including improvements and replacements. There could also be an issue on how the reclassified property is valued. Current law requires an assessor to put personal property on the tax roles at "original cost". Section 137.122. 1. (4) defines "original cost". Subsection 3. requires the assessor to apply the depreciation percentage to original cost, which can be "historical cost" when the personal property is added to the tax rolls. This proposal could lead to an initial increase in assessed valuation, especially for retail gas stations, that would be decreased by depreciation over time. The legislation could also cause a resulting tax-shift as with the decrease in personal property valuation due to depreciation over time, taxing districts with the ability to increase tax rates will raise those tax rates to recoup revenues lost because of a decrease in personal property and overall values.



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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: RICHARD SHEETS		PHONE NUMBER: 573-635-9134	
REPRESENTING: MISSOURI MUNICIPAL LEAGUE		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: 1727 SOUTHRIDGE DRIVE			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65109
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 4/26/2021 12:00 AM	
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