



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1917		DATE: 1/14/2026	
COMMITTEE: Utilities			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: ANDREA SITZES		PHONE NUMBER: 573-578-6608	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: MISSOURI ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL		TITLE: PRESIDENT	
ADDRESS: P.O. BOX 105918			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65110
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 1/14/2026 12:00 AM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1917		DATE: 1/14/2026	
COMMITTEE: Utilities			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: ARNIE C. DIENOFF-STATE PUBLIC ADVOCATE		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 1/14/2026 11:53 PM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

We NEED an Overhaul of Public Water Supply District Laws and the Huge Salary of Public Water Supply District #2 of Saint Charles County/East-Central Missouri Water & Sewer Authority, ripping off Rate Users to the tune of over \$25,000-\$30,000 for a 45-Minute Meeting, with Travel, Expenses and Catered Meals. This NEEDS to be Fully Investigated and come to a complete halt



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1917		DATE: 1/14/2026
COMMITTEE: Utilities		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:		
WITNESS NAME: MACKENZIE SMITH LEDET		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: JAMES HARDIE BUILDING PRODUCTS INC.		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY: CRYSTAL CITY	STATE: MO	ZIP: 63028
EMAIL: mackenzie.smithledet@jameshardie.com	ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 1/14/2026 3:49 PM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

James Hardie Building Products Inc. provided in-person testimony in support of Representative Casteel's HB 1917 before the Utilities Committee. Due to our current experience in developing a new manufacturing site in Jefferson County, to be our 12th North American manufacturing facility, and the challenges we continue to encounter relative to the provision of the quantity and quality water we will need, we support HB 1917.

Water is one of four critical raw materials needed to manufacture our fiber cement exterior cladding and trim products and since we announced our project in Crystal City, MO in 2022, we have not been able to make final decisions on who will provide the quality and quantity water we need at the site due to the actions of the local rural water district. The local water district does not service our site, has never serviced our site and does not want to service our site; yet it is demanding that we pay the local water district a monthly monetary fee simply for the fact that our property is located within its geographic boundaries. James Hardie has sought to detach from the geographic boundaries of the local water district, but the current detachment options are lengthy and require litigation. HB 1917 would add another detachment option that is more efficient and applies in limited circumstances in Jefferson County.

James Hardie also supports HB 1917 because it ensures that water districts cannot refuse unconditional monetary donations offered to pay down a water district's debts to the detriment of its water district ratepayers. The local water district returned a gratuitous, unconditional payment of its debt guaranteed by the federal government to the detriment of its ratepayers, choosing instead, to hold the debt and interest until 2033. HB 1917 prevents this scenario.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1917		DATE: 1/14/2026	
COMMITTEE: Utilities			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: ANGELA HILL		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/14/2026 4:20 PM	

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

I stand in firm opposition to HB 1917. While the bill's language does not specify, it is specific to land owned by James Hardie Building Products that seeks to detach from PWSD #12. This would allow a neighboring utility to serve the industrial plant water, when it clearly lies within PWSD #12 district boundaries. PWSD #12 has from the inception been willing to serve the plant. Despite the fact that PWSD #12 does not have the current infrastructure to provide the necessary water at completion of the project, they do have the desire to serve any resident or commercial facility moving into the District. The neighboring utility wishing to serve the plant, also needs advanced infrastructure to serve the plant upon completion of the project. I participated in the live viewing of the hearing, in its entirety. I'm not sure it was made clear that the neighboring utility also does not have the current infrastructure to support the project. It is confusing to me why James Hardie Industrial Products has a choice in water providers, when clear lines have already established the provider. Growth in rural areas often requires new infrastructure. Had James Hardie Industrial Products been willing to provide PWSD #12 the time and plans from the beginning of the project, I believe HB 1917 would be a non-issue.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1917		DATE: 1/14/2026	
COMMITTEE: Utilities			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: BRAD BRYANT		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 1/14/2026 12:00 AM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1917		DATE: 1/14/2026	
COMMITTEE: Utilities			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: DAVID HAUG		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/14/2026 9:12 PM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

These bills set a dangerous precedent by changing laws to benefit corporations at the expense of local, public water districts.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1917		DATE: 1/14/2026	
COMMITTEE: Utilities			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: EMILY WAKEMAN		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/14/2026 10:15 PM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

I oppose HB 1917 because I believe it will open Pandora's box to lessening the territory of small local governments while the voters will have no say in the matter. There is already a state statute in place for detachment; Chapter 247 Section 247.170 gives a voice to the voters on whether or not a property should detach from a water district. HB 1917 takes all opposition out of the equation.

If a property can detach from a water district, who's to say that other property owners won't apply this unopposed detachment to other entities like school districts. A landowner may say, I don't want my property to land in school district A, I'd rather it land in school district B, so I will detach my property so that it falls beyond the boundaries, thus, lessening the territory with new, unfavorable boundaries.

Tighter boundaries leave no room for future progress. Detachment allows big corporations to take advantage of the little guy. Jefferson County PWSD #12 is a small district that has to protect its boundaries so that it is not swallowed up by whomever has the deepest pockets. There is already a proper provision in place. Utilize it and let the voters be heard with Statute 247.170.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1917		DATE: 1/14/2026
COMMITTEE: Utilities		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: ERIN DEVORE		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/14/2026 4:42 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

If passed, this bill will essentially eliminate any protections that water districts might have from encroaching municipalities and allow a much easier path for someone to detach their property from a water district in Jefferson County. Essentially removing any protection small water districts have from larger entities taking areas are possible revenue.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1917		DATE: 1/14/2026	
COMMITTEE: Utilities			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: FRED DREILING		PHONE NUMBER: 816-806-6335	
REPRESENTING: ASSOCIATION OF WATER DISTRICTS		TITLE: LOBBYIST	
ADDRESS: 1025 W 64TH TERR			
CITY: KANSAS CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 64113
EMAIL: freddreilingllc@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/13/2026 3:57 PM	

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

Section 1926(b) is federal law that protects a water district's service area while USDA debt is outstanding. Once that debt is paid off, the protection ends.

HB 1917 intentionally allows the debt to be paid, and in doing so, intentionally terminates 1926(b) protections.

That uses state law to eliminate a federal safeguard and sets a troubling precedent.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1917		DATE: 1/14/2026
COMMITTEE: Utilities		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:		
WITNESS NAME: KENNETH WELDELE		PHONE NUMBER: 314-603-6373
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY DISTRICT 3		TITLE: GENERAL MANAGER
ADDRESS: 1469 OLD STATE ROUTE 21		
CITY: ARNOLD		STATE: MO
		ZIP: 63010
EMAIL: kweldele@publicwater3.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/12/2026 1:21 PM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

There are many reasons to object to this. Lost infrastructure investment. In most cases, ratepayers have supported the continued growth of the supplier in which they reside. There have been many times that joint infrastructure plans have begun execution, and possibly now have that outcome, and capital expenditures become uncollectable alongside the infrastructure that is no longer usable. This bill does not align with responsible protection of the citizens of this county or state. It also appears to give unreasonable powers to individual or business interests hoping to skirt the current costs or oversight provided by the current state laws. This is just a small look into the reasons to oppose this bill.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1917		DATE: 1/14/2026	
COMMITTEE: Utilities			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: LISA A. PETERS		PHONE NUMBER: 636-586-5445	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY DISTRICT NO. 5 OF JEFFERSON COUNTY		TITLE: MANAGER	
ADDRESS: 13261 STATE ROAD CC			
CITY: DESOTO		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63020
EMAIL: lisapwsd5@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/14/2026 4:33 PM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1917		DATE: 1/14/2026	
COMMITTEE: Utilities			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: LYNNE EDWARDS		PHONE NUMBER: 636-375-8902	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: CONS PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY DISTRICT NO. C-1		TITLE: DISTRICT MANAGER	
ADDRESS: 6645 MOSS HOLLOW ROAD			
CITY: BARNHART		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63012
EMAIL: ledwards@pwsdc1.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/13/2026 2:39 PM	

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

Public Water Supply District No. C-1 of Jefferson County Missouri strongly opposes this bill because it allows corporations or businesses to pay off debt of a Public Water Supply District for their own gain to use property in the rural districts. And only in Jefferson County Missouri. This in no way benefits the public located in those areas. We strongly urge you to go no further with this bill and stand with your constituents and defend the small rural water systems in Jefferson County Missouri.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1917		DATE: 1/14/2026	
COMMITTEE: Utilities			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: WILL HUMPHREY		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:		SUBMIT DATE: 1/14/2026 12:00 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1917		DATE: 1/14/2026	
COMMITTEE: Utilities			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: DAVID COURTNEY		PHONE NUMBER: 636-797-6487	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: JEFFERSON COUNTY GOVT		TITLE: DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION	
ADDRESS: PO BOX 100			
CITY: HILLSBORO		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63050
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 1/14/2026 12:00 AM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1917		DATE: 1/14/2026	
COMMITTEE: Utilities			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: JIM MCCLEISH		PHONE NUMBER: 314-960-7803	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: HORNERT SHIFRIN, INC.		TITLE: SR VICE PRESIDENT	
ADDRESS: 401 S. 18TH ST.			
CITY: ST. LOUIS		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63103
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 1/14/2026 12:00 AM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1917		DATE: 1/14/2026	
COMMITTEE: Utilities			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: SUBASH ALIAS		PHONE NUMBER: 314-308-1990	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: MISSOURI PARTNERSHIP		TITLE: CEO	
ADDRESS: 120 S. CENTRAL SUITE 1275			
CITY: CLAYTON		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63105
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 1/14/2026 12:00 AM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			