#### SECOND REGULAR SESSION

# SENATE BILL NO. 720

#### 94TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR COLEMAN.

Pre-filed December 1, 2007, and ordered printed.

3054S.01I

TERRY L. SPIELER, Secretary.

## AN ACT

To repeal section 660.122, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof two new sections relating to hot weather maintenance of utility service.

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

Section A. Section 660.122, RSMo, is repealed and two new sections

- 2 enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as sections 393.108 and 660.122, to read as
- 3 follows:
- 393.108. For purposes of this section, the hot weather rule shall
- 2 mean the period of time from June first to September thirtieth, in
- 3 which the discontinuance of gas and electric service to all residential
- 4 users, including all residential tenants of apartment buildings, for
- 5 nonpayment of bills where gas or electricity is used as the source of
- 6 cooling or to operate the only cooling equipment at the residence, is
- prohibited in the following situations:
- 8 (1) On any day when the National Weather Service local forecast
- 9 between 6:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. for the following twenty-four hours
- 10 predicts that the temperature shall rise above ninety-five degrees
- 11 Fahrenheit or that the heat index shall rise above one hundred five
- 12 degrees Fahrenheit;
- 13 (2) On any day when utility personnel are not available to
- 14 reconnect utility service during the immediately succeeding day or
- 15 days and the National Weather Service local forecast between 6:00 a.m.
- 16 and 9:00 p.m. predicts that the temperature during the period of
- 17 unavailability shall rise above ninety-five degrees Fahrenheit or that
- 18 the heat index shall rise above one hundred five degrees Fahrenheit;
- 19 and

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(3) In any other applicable situations provided for in rules

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### 21 established and amended by the public service commission.

660.122. Funds appropriated under the authority of sections 660.100 to 660.136 may be used to pay the expenses of reconnecting or maintaining service to households that have had their primary or secondary heating or cooling source disconnected or service discontinued because of their failure to pay their bill. Any qualified household or other household which has as its head a person who is elderly or disabled, as defined in section 660.100, shall be eligible for assistance under this section if the income for the household is no more than one hundred fifty percent of the current federal poverty level or sixty percent of the state median income and if moneys have been appropriated by the general assembly 10 utilicare stabilization fund established pursuant to section 660.136. Payments under this section shall be made directly to the primary or 11 12 secondary heating or cooling source supplier. Any primary or secondary heating or cooling source supplier subject to the supervision and regulation of the public 13 service commission shall, at any time during the period of the hot weather rule 14 as defined in section 393.108, RSMo, or the cold weather rule specified in 15 16 the cold weather rule as established and as amended by the public service commission, reconnect and provide services to each household eligible for 17assistance under this section in compliance with the terms of such hot weather 18 rule or cold weather rule. All home energy suppliers receiving funds under this 19 20 section shall provide service to eligible households consistent with their contractual agreements with the department of social services. 21

