



MISSOURI SENATE

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For Immediate Release:
May 13, 2009

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General Assembly Approves Legislation Co-Sponsored by Sen. Jane Cunningham to Stop Sewer District from Unfair Billing

JEFFERSON CITY — The General Assembly passed a bill this week (5/11) co-sponsored by Sen. Jane Cunningham, R-Chesterfield, that would prohibit the Metropolitan St. Louis Sewer District from charging customers for services they do have access to or receive.

The proposal — originally passed in [Senate Bill 172](#) and incorporated into [Senate Bill 242](#) — seeks to prevent the Metropolitan Sewer District (MSD) from charging residential landowners for storm water management services if the district does not provide sanitary sewer service to the landowner's property. The proposed legislation, co-sponsored with Sen. Tim Green, D-Spanish Lake, is in response to concerns and issues regarding the district's billing to residents in several areas of St. Louis County for sewer or storm water services they are not provided.

"This legislation will end an unfair billing practice in which many St. Louis County residents were suddenly being charged for services they have been providing for themselves with their own septic tanks, wells and natural run off," Sen. Cunningham said.

Lawmakers worked diligently with MSD and each other in a bipartisan fashion in order to try to resolve the concerns, which have affected many residents in parts of West St. Louis County.

"This will restore fairness for homeowners who asked for and needed relief from arbitrary charges for services they have never received," Sen. Cunningham said.

The bill contains an emergency clause and becomes effective upon the governor's signature.

For further information about Senator Jane Cunningham and her legislation, you may visit her Senate website at www.senate.mo.gov/cunningham or contact her Chief of Staff, Lucy LePage, at (573) 751-1186.

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