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## Green's Metropolitan Sewer District Legislation Advances

JEFFERSON CITY, MO – State Senator Timothy P. Green (D-Spanish Lake) is working with the St. Louis Metropolitan Sewer District to resolve issues of unfair billing practices.

Senate Bill 172, as introduced, will prohibit the Metropolitan Sewer District from charging consumers who do not receive sanitary sewer service from the district. This legislation is in response to the concerns and issues regarding the district's billing of North St. Louis County residents, many from the Old Jamestown area who do not receive sewer or storm water services but are being billed for these services.

Numerous constituents have telephoned, e-mailed and written letters to Senator Green expressing their strong support of the legislation, and their outrage at being billed for services they are unable to benefit from or utilize. "MSD is effectively charging a fee/tax on people that can not use the services," said Sen. Green, "and that is wrong and the legislature must act to stop this tax abuse where residents are being charged for services they can not use."

Senator Green continues to work with MSD officials and his constituents to resolve these concerns since holding two town hall meetings last October and December. There have been several cordial exchanges between MSD officials and Sen. Green which have resulted in Senate Bill 172. Senator Green believes that this legislation "is a step in the right direction and a common sense solution to the problem of unfair billing for services not provided."

The bill was heard today in the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, Energy, and the Environment, where Sen. Green shared constituent correspondence with his colleagues and urged them to act favorably by supporting SB 172.