



For Immediate Release
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Governor Nixon Signs Legislation Supported by Sen. Timothy Green to Stop Sewer District from Unfair Billing

JEFFERSON CITY, MO – Unfair billing practices by the Metropolitan St. Louis Sewer District (MSD) should end now that Governor Nixon has signed into law House Bill 661 that contained provisions offered by State Senator Timothy P. Green (D-Spanish Lake). HB 661 prevents the MSD from charging customers who receive no storm water services if the district does not directly provide storm drainage services and if the storm water runoff does not flow to a sewer maintained by MSD.

The legislation was proposed in response to the concerns of over 300 North St. Louis County residents. Numerous constituents have telephoned, e-mailed and written letters to Sen. 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 storm water fee on people that cannot use the service,” said Sen. Green, “that is wrong and the legislature has acted to provide relief to residents are being charged for services they cannot use.”

Prior to passage in May, Sen. Green held two town hall meetings with North St. Louis County residents where MSD addressed their concerns.

State Representative Gina Walsh (D-Bellefontaine Neighbors) worked with the House sponsor of HB 661 ensuring this important relief for her constituents passed the House. “I thank Governor Nixon for signing this common sense law that will provide relief to a number of hard working families and seniors living on fixed incomes in North St. Louis County.”

Governor Nixon signed the bill into law on July 7. The new law prohibits the Metropolitan St. Louis Sewer District from assessing a district residential property owner any fee, charge, or tax for storm water management services if the district does not directly provide sanitary sewer services to the property and the storm water runoff from the property does not flow or is not otherwise conveyed to a sewer maintained by the district.

“This legislation is intended to provide relief from the MSD storm water fee if a resident’s storm water runs into a natural sink hole, stream, or river, like the Missouri River.” said Sen. Green. “If your properties’ runoff does not flow into a concrete storm water drainage system maintained by MSD then you should not be billed for usage of any MSD storm water system that your property does not have direct access.”

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