

HB 598 -- Missouri Propane Education and Research Council

Sponsor: Schad

This bill changes the laws regarding the Missouri Propane Education and Research Council. In its main provisions, the bill:

(1) Removes the provision allowing the Director of the Division of Energy within the Department of Natural Resources to initiate a referendum on the abolishment of the council and the fee for odorized propane;

(2) Removes the director's authority to:

(a) Fill council vacancies and requires appointments to be made by the council following a public nomination process;

(b) Approve or recommend changes to the council's budget. The council must approve or modify the budget after a 30-day public comment period prior to the beginning of each fiscal period;

(c) Receive notice of meetings and require additional reports from the council; and

(d) Establish alternative means to collect the odorized propane fee and establish late payment charges. The council will have this authority; and

(3) Removes the provision allowing the National Propane Education and Research Council to establish a program coordinating its operation with the Missouri council and authorizing the Missouri council to keep funds from a federal rebate on propane fees collected by the national council.