

House Concurrent Resolution No. 11

91ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY

1473L.011

1 **Whereas**, the members of the Missouri Public Service Commission are charged with the
2 responsibility of protecting the interests of the people of the state of Missouri against utility companies
3 that operate as monopolies; and
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5 **Whereas**, the recent dramatic increase in utility rates for utility companies providing
6 heating fuels has had a devastating financial affect on many middle and low income Missourians who
7 cannot afford to pay utility bills which have more than doubled in recent months; and
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9 **Whereas**, many Missourians on fixed and limited incomes may be forced to eliminate
10 essential purchases such as food and medicine from their limited budgets in order to pay their exorbitant
11 utility bills; and
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13 **Whereas**, many utility companies have not done enough to help alleviate the enormous
14 financial burden placed on their customers at this time of rising utility costs; and
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16 **Whereas**, the current utility rate structure builds in a specific profit margin for utility
17 companies which means the utility companies are guaranteed a profit at a time when many customers
18 are simply financially unable to pay their utility bills; and
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20 **Whereas**, due to the extraordinary circumstances that the people of the state of Missouri
21 find themselves in, the members of the Missouri Public Service Commission should consider taking an
22 extraordinary step to protect the interests of the people of the state of Missouri:
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24 **Now, therefore, be it resolved** that the members of the House of
25 Representatives of the Ninety-first General Assembly, First Regular Session, the Senate concurring
26 therein, hereby directs the Missouri Public Service Commission to freeze all utility rates at their current

27 levels and deny any rate increases until this utility cost crisis is over; and
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29 **Be it further resolved** that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of
30 Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for the Missouri
31 Public Service Commission.