

SCS SB 878 -- EXPERIMENTAL TARIFFS

SPONSOR: Goode (Rector)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass by consent" by the Committee on Communications, Energy, and Technology by a vote of 19 to 0.

Current law allows eligible school entities to purchase natural gas in aggregate, rather than individually, until June 30, 2005. This substitute extends the program through June 30, 2007.

FISCAL NOTE: No impact on state funds in FY 2005, FY 2006, and FY 2007.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that this program has been very successful and has allowed schools across the state to save money on the cost of natural gas. Schools still pay all taxes required by their municipalities, so the cities aren't losing any revenue. Extending the expiration date will allow schools to continue saving money.

Testifying for the bill were Senator Goode; Missouri School Boards Association; Missouri Association of School Administrators; and Cooperating School Districts of St. Louis.

OPPOSITION: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

Alice Hurley, Legislative Analyst