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June 25, 2003

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MIKE DETHROW

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Missouri Public Service Commission

MX-2003-0187

Dear Mr. Roberts,

Mr. Dale Hardy Roberts, Secretary

Jefferson City, Missouri 65102

Missouri Public Service Commission

I have just been contacted by some of my constituents regarding the proposed increase in fees for new manufactured homes. This letter is to inform you of my opposition to increasing inspection fees on manufactured homes at a time when small businesses selling these homes are struggling in Missouri's slow economy.

Most folks think Missouri's small businesses can just pass the cost of government on to their customers. That sounds all well and good, but with our current economic conditions our families do not have money in their pockets to spend now much less ask them to absorb additional government fees.

When we ask small business and our families to absorb more and more fees, the state will see even less tax revenue which will just compound the revenue shortfalls we are experiencing in this state. Today, businesses and our families in my district are tightening their belts and trying to live within their means which is a good lesson for those of us involved in the public policy process.

I hope the Missouri Public Service Commission will consider the plight of our small businesses and families in this state and reconsider the proposed fee increase for manufactured housing.

I appreciate your careful consideration and attention to this matter and look forward to your reply.

Sincerely,

Mike Dethrow State Representative

District 153

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