

MINUTES OF THE SENATE UTILITIES COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Jay Emler at 9:30 A.M. on March 24, 2008 in Room 526-S of the Capitol.

Committee members absent:

Committee staff present: Raney Gilliland, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Cindy Lash, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Mike Corrigan, Revisor of Statutes
Ann McMorris, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Earl Watkins, Sunflower Electric Power Corporation

Others in Attendance: See attached sheet

Chair opened the hearing on:

SB 692 - Establishing the joint committee on energy and environmental policy

Revisor's staff review - **SB 692** establishes a joint committee on energy and environmental policy. Selection of members, topics to be studied and compensation is set forth in the bill. Committee members asked about when and how often the committee would meet. Fiscal note indicated compensation for 12 days of meetings.

Proponent:

Earl Watkins, Sunflower Electric Power Corporation, who spoke on behalf of Sunflower and Midwest Energy, noted the need for the legislature to develop sound energy and environmental policies so utilities can make difficult long-range planning decisions. (Attachment 1)

Chair closed the hearing on **SB 692**.

Approval of Minutes

Moved by Senator Lee, seconded by Senator Taddiken, to approve the minutes of the Senate Utilities Committee meeting held on February 12, 2008. Motion carried.

Action on **HB 2805** - Establishing the Kansas emergency communications preservation act.

Moved by Senator Apple, seconded by Senator Reitz, to move **HB 2805** out favorably. Motion carried.

Continued discussion on **HB 2637** - telecommunications; pricing, flexibility; lifeline service program.

Revisor had prepared a balloon (z2637g4) of **HB 2637** incorporating all the amendments made at the March 20, 2008 meeting. (Attachment 2)

Moved by Senator Francisco, seconded by Senator Taddiken, to amend **HB 2637** (z2637g5) on page 1 by changing the title description; on page 8 by deleting the amendment (shown in z2637g4); and on page 10 line 14 by adding the language "*and the commission shall also send a report of such findings to each member of the legislature.*" (Attachment 3)

Request by Senator Lee, seconded by Senator Apple, for division of question.

Chairman Emler explained the division of question - (1) Report to full legislature; (2) 2.5% ('no' vote will keep this in the bill; 'yes' vote will delete; (3) CPIU ('no' vote will keep this in the bill; 'yes' vote will delete).

Chair asked for vote on:

Question 1 - Motion carried

Question 2 - Motion failed. "no" votes from Senators Apple and Lee.

Question 3 - Motion failed.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE Senate Utilities Committee at 9:30 A.M. on March 24, 2008 in Room 526-S of the Capitol.

Moved by Senator Apple, seconded by Senator Petersen to amend **SB 20** into **HB 2637**. Motion failed. 3 yes, five no.

Moved by Senator Reitz, seconded by Senator Taddiken, to pass **HB 2637** out favorably as amended. Motion carried.

Moved by Senator Taddiken, seconded by Senator Lee, to pass **SB 692** out favorably. Motion carried.

Adjournment.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann McMorris, Secretary

Attachments - 3