

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON UTILITIES.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Carl D. Holmes at 9:10 a.m. on January 19, 2000 in Room 522-S of the Capitol.

All members were present.

Committee staff present: Lynne Holt, Legislative Research Department
Mary Torrence, Revisor of Statutes
Jo Cook, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee: Janette Luehring, Chief of Telecommunications,
Kansas Corporation Commission

Others attending: See Attached Guest List

HB 2290 - Repeal of statute relating to public utilities' loaning money and pledging credit.

Chairman Holmes provided some background on **HB 2290**. After returning to the House during the 1999 session, this bill was ruled materially altered and was returned to the Utilities Committee. Rep. Sloan addressed the Supplemental Note on the bill explaining the original bill requested a repeal of the statute requiring a utility company to apply to the KCC for approval before that utility can pledge its credit to a subsidiary. Rep. Sloan moved that there be a Substitute for House Bill 2290 that only includes the repeal of K.S.A. 66-1213. Rep. Kuether seconded the motion. Motion carried. Rep. Sloan moved that the Committee report Sub HB 2290 favorable for passage. Rep. Kuether seconded the motion. Motion carried. Rep. Alldritt will carry the bill.

Chairman Holmes directed the committee's attention to a new map that was distributed to correctly reflect the rate structure in one REC (Attachment 1).

Chairman Holmes welcomed Janette Luehring, Chief of Telecommunications, Kansas Corporation Commission, who briefed the committee on the status of various telecommunication dockets (Attachment 2). The dockets discussed included, but were not limited to, a general investigation into competition within the telecommunications industry and Southwestern Bell Telephone Company's cost to provide local service (modification of the KUSF). Also distributed to the committee was a copy of the "Telecommunications Report to the 2000 Kansas Legislature" (Attachment 3).

Ms. Luehring responded to questions from Rep. Alldritt, Rep. Krehbiel, Rep. Long, Rep. Holmes, Rep. McClure, Rep. Kuether, Rep. Klein and Rep. Sloan.

The meeting adjourned at 10:37 a.m.

Next meeting will be Thursday, January 20, 2000 at 9:00 a.m.