66-136. Transfer of franchise or certificate of convenience. No franchise or certificate of convenience and necessity granted to a common carrier or public utility governed by the provisions of this act shall be assigned, transferred or leased, nor shall any contract or agreement with reference to or affecting such franchise or certificate of convenience and necessity or right thereunder be valid or of any force or effect whatsoever, unless the assignment, transfer, lease, contract or agreement shall have been approved by the commission. The provisions of this section shall not apply to local exchange carriers that have elected price cap regulation pursuant to subsection (b) of K.S.A. 66-2005, and amendments thereto, unless a transaction subject to this section is solely between such carrier and a local exchange carrier that has elected rate of return regulation pursuant to subsection (b) of K.S.A. 66-2005, and amendments thereto, operating wholly within this state.