



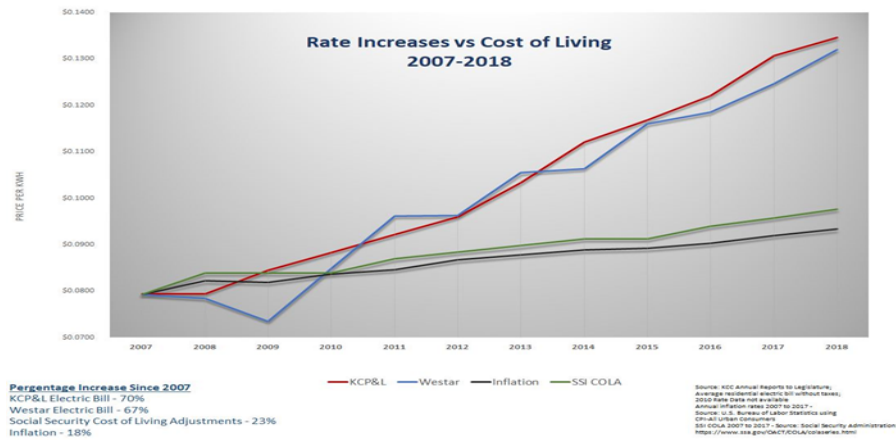
March 19, 2019

Kansas House Committee on Utilities

Chairmen Seiwert and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to present written testimony today on behalf of our activists to support Sub for SB 69 which will commission a much needed, rigorous and independent study of electric utilities as it concerns just and reasonable electric rates.

It is a well-known fact, that during the past decade, electricity rates have increased by 70%.¹ Those increases raise red flags by themselves, but when benchmarked to the inflation rate for the same period, the urgency and necessity of the study proposed in this legislation becomes rather clear.



Furthermore, Kansas has an energy poverty problem. Households with incomes of below 50% of the Federal Poverty Level pay 30% of their annual income simply for their home energy bills. In total in total, the Home Energy Affordability Gap quantifies over 246,000 households in our state experiencing high energy burdens.²

Considering these facts, we believe it is necessary for our state legislators to look thoroughly into this matter by commissioning experts to conduct a rigorous independent study that will point to the underlying causes of this situation that its greatly affecting families and job creators across our state. We urge you to support SB 69 as a first step in helping your constituents battle high electricity costs in Kansas.

Jeff Glendening – Kansas State Director
Americans for Prosperity

¹ Kansas Energy Problem. See: <https://www.kansasenergyproblem.com/overview>

² Kansas: The Home Energy Affordability Gap 2016 (Second Series, Published April 2017.)
http://www.homeenergyaffordabilitygap.com/03a_affordabilityData.html