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LEGISLATURE *of* THE STATE *of* KANSAS
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MEMORANDUM

To: Chairman Thompson and Members of the Committee on Utilities
From: Office of Revisor of Statutes
Date: March 17, 2021
RE: House Bill 2321

HB 2321 would require an electric utility to provide notification to a city and landowners prior to beginning construction of an "urban electric transmission line" within the boundaries of such city. The bill would define an "urban electric transmission line" would be defined as any line that would traverse at least 2.5 miles through the corporate limits of a city having a population of 300,000 or more and is designed for the transfer of 69kV to 230kV of electricity.

Prior to construction such a line, the utility would be required to provide the city all preliminary construction plans and visual examples showing the proposed locations and dimensions of all poles and supporting facilities relative to streets, sight triangles at intersections, easements and public rights-of-way. Such notice would be required to be provided at least 6 months prior to the construction.

The bill would also require that notice of the proposed construction of an urban electric transmission line and of an open house be provided to:

- (1) All landowners and tenants of record whose land was proposed to be acquired in connection with the construction of the urban electric transmission line or is located within 660 feet of the easement for such line is proposed to be located;
- (2) the governing body of the city through which such line is proposed to traverse; and
- (3) the Kansas corporation commission.

The notice of the open provided for these entities would be required to be published in a newspaper having general circulation in the city through which the line is proposed and include the time, place and subject matter of the open house. In conducting the open house, the utility would be required to:

- (1) Allow for public comment regarding the proposed construction;
- (2) Have a KCC commissioner and staff person in attendance; and
- (3) Hold the open house on a weekend day or after 5pm during the week.

The provisions of the bill would not apply in situations where the construction or repair of an urban electric transmission line is necessary due to damage caused by any natural causes or other physical damage to the line.