

MINUTES OF THE SENATE UTILITIES COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Pat Apple at 1:30 p.m. on February 9, 2011, in Room 548-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Committee staff present:

Matt Sterling, Office of the Revisor of Statutes
Cindy Lash, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Heather O'Hara, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Ann McMorris, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the Committee:

Ward Loyd, KCC Commissioner
Ben Foster, Kansas Rural Independent Telephone Company

Others attending: See attached list.

Approval of Minutes

Moved by Senator Taddiken, seconded by Senator Petersen, to approve the minutes of the meetings of the Senate Utilities Committee held on January 19, 24, 25, 26, 27, and 31 and February 3, 2011. Motion carried.

Chair continued the hearing on:

SB 72 – Telecommunications and Price Deregulation

Opponents

Ward Loyd, Commissioner of the Kansas Corporation Commission, spoke at length on his concerns of the effect **SB 72** would have on the telecommunications industry and on the FCC regulations. (Attachment 12) (Note: written testimony provided a day after Mr. Loyd's appearance)

Ben Foster, President, Twin Valley Telephone Inc., spoke for the Kansas Rural Independent Telephone Companies. (Attachment 1)

Chair announced the hearing on **SB 72** would be continued at the next meeting of the Senate Utilities Committee as time did not permit several opponents to be heard at the Feb. 9 meeting.

Written testimony was distributed for the following opponents:

Christine Aarnes, Kansas Corporation Commission (Attachment 2)
Craig Kaberline, Kansas Area Agencies on Aging Assn. (Attachment 3)
Ernest Kutzley, AARP (Attachment 4)
Scott Schneider, Cox Communications (Attachment 5)
Steve Rarrick, CURB (Attachment 6)
Patrick Fucik, Sprint (Attachment 7)
Mitzi McFatrigh, Exec. Dir., Kansas Advocates for Better Care (Attachment 8)

The following information was distributed to the committee:

1. Three maps produced by KCC: (a) Centurylink Access Line Count; (b) AT&T Access Line Count; and (c) AT&T deregulated Exchange Line Count. (Attachment 9)
2. 2011 Report to the Kansas Legislature on Price Deregulation (this report is on file at KCC)
3. AT&T Kansas exchanges by size and Centurylink Kansas Exchanges by size (Attachment 10)
4. On request, the Kansas Corporation Commission provided a list of the local rates for all of the incumbent local exchange carriers in Kansas and the amount of Kansas Universal Service Fund support each carrier receives. (Attachment 11)

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Ann McMorris
Committee Assistant
Attachments - 12