



KANSAS
ASSOCIATION OF
COUNTIES

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House Energy, Utilities and Telecommunications Committee
February 29, 2024
HB 2806

Kansas Association of Counties
Neutral Testimony – Written Only

Chairman Delperdang and members of the Committee:

Thank you for allowing the Kansas Association of Counties to offer neutral testimony on HB 2806, which would allow telecommunications and video service providers to operate in the county public right of way. The bill would also limit the fees and costs counties could impose.

HB 2806 would create a framework similar to the framework that exists for cities, as codified in [KSA 17-1902](#). KAC would note, however, that the provisions of HB 2806, while similar to those applied to cities, are not exactly the same. Those differences include the declaration in Section 1 (a) and (j). Section (a) is a statement of legislative intent. Section 1 (j) allows providers to request an accounting of fees. There is not a similar corresponding section in KSA 17-1902 for either of these provisions.

The question before the committee is whether the framework for cities and the framework for counties should be roughly the same, as the proposed bill offers, or exactly same, mirroring the provisions of KSA 17-1902 within HB 2806? This is particularly important given that HB 2806 would take this issue out of local hands and make it a statewide standard. If the standard is statewide, should the requirements for cities and counties match?

This is what the committee must weigh as it considers HB 2806.

Thank you for the time and consideration of these comments. Please feel free to contact KAC with any questions that you may have.

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