HOUSE BILL No. 2156

By Committee on Energy, Utilities and Telecommunications

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AN ACT concerning public utilities; relating to the state corporation commission; authorizing public utilities to establish rates to benefit low-income residential customers.

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Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:

Section 1. (a) In a general rate proceeding pursuant to K.S.A. 66-117, and amendments thereto, whenever a public utility proposes rates, terms or charges for the benefit of low-income residential customers, the state corporation commission may approve such rates, terms or charges if the commission finds that such rates, terms or charges are just and reasonable. Any such rates, terms or charges may be established below the cost of service if such rates, terms and charges are not unjust or unreasonably discriminatory or unduly preferential.

- (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of K.S.A. 66-101b, 66-1,202 and 66-1,232, and amendments thereto, any proposed or effective rates, terms or charges for the benefit of low-income residential customers shall not be deemed to be unjust, unreasonably discriminatory, unduly preferential or otherwise in violation of the laws of this state solely because such rates, terms or charges result in increased rates or charges for other residential customers.
- (c) This section shall not impose a duty on a public utility to propose, file, establish or maintain the rates, terms or charges authorized pursuant to this section.
- Sec. 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its publication in the statute book.