

MINUTES OF THE SENATE UTILITIES COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Jay Scott Emler at 9:30 A.M. on February 21, 2005 in Room 526-S of the Capitol.

Committee members absent: Senator Roger Reitz- excused

Committee staff present: Athena Andaya, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Raney Gilliland, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Bruce Kinzie, Revisor of Statutes' Office
Diana Lee, Revisor of Statutes' Office
Ann McMorris, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee: Janet Buchanan, Kansas Corporation Commission
Steve Rarrick, Citizen' Utility Ratepayer Board

Others in attendance: See attached list

Chair continued the hearing on
SB 120 - Telecommunications, regulation thereof, KUSF

Opponents:

Janet Buchanan, Chief of Communications, Kansas Corporation Commission, enumerated the concerns of KCC on the amended language in **SB 120** on (1) depreciation rates; (2) price deregulation of bundled offerings; (3) price deregulation of new services; (4) price cap formula; and (5) determining of KUSF support. (Attachment 1)

Steve Rarrick, staff attorney, Citizens' Utility Ratepayer Board, noted, as written, this bill would completely price deregulate Southwestern Bell and Sprint in every exchange they operate in the State of Kansas, leaving the vast majority of Kansans without any protection against price increases for basic local telephone service. CURB is opposed to **S.B. 120** in its entirety. The price deregulation proposed in **SB 120** is contrary to the public policy set forth in K.S.A. 66-2001 and the mandates set forth in K.S.A. 66-2002 c). He addressed the proposed changes to K.S.A. 66-2005 and K.S.A. 66-2008 separately in order of importance. (Attachment 2)

Written testimony was provided by Patrick Knorr, Sunflower Broadband, Lawrence. (Attachment 3)

Chair closed the hearing on S.B. 120.

Approval of minutes

Moved by Taddiken, seconded by Apple, the minutes of the meeting of the Senate Utilities Committee held on February 17, 2005, be approved. Motion carried.

Adjournment.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann McMorris, Secretary

Attachments - 3