

Kansas Rural Independent Telephone Companies (KRITC's)
HB 2201 – Sections that Impact the Rural Independent Carriers

- **Page 1, Lines 9-36, Page 2, Lines 1-27, New Section 1** - This amendment establishes the Telecommunications Interim Study Committee. The committee will meet over a three year period and study telecommunications issues to ensure that Kansas public policy relative to advancing statewide telecommunications infrastructure is being met. The KRITCs believe this process will be an important educational tool for the legislature as it considers Kansas telecommunications policy in light of federal reform of Universal Service Funding and Intercarrier Compensation as we move into a broadband centric world.
- **Page 8, Lines 37-39, Amendment to K.S.A. 66-2005** – This amendment corrects an error from when the statute was amended, 1 word – “interstate’ to ‘intrastate’, access. The KRITCs believe this amendment corrects the statutory misprint that could negatively impact the KUSF as the FCC implements changes if left in place.
- **Page 24, Lines 31-43, Page 25, Lines 1-5, Amendment to K.S.A. 66-2008** - This amendment directs the KCC to reduce CETC KUSF support to zero over a four year period beginning March 1, 2014. Accomplished in equal annual increments, this process is similar to the one being used by the FCC to eliminate identical support for CETCs at the federal level. Several KRITCs have affiliates that are affected by this amendment. The KRITCs believe this amendment offers a measured and responsible move over a reasonable length of time to phase out CETC KUSF support and reduce the KUSF.
- **Page 26, Lines 5-16, Amendment of K.S.A. 66-2008** - This amendment directs the KCC to use existing policies and procedures established under current statute to determine KRITC KUSF support for the next four years. The KCC’s continued use of this process in determining KUSF support for the KRITCs will give us regulatory stability and predictability over the next four years as we continue to invest to bring basic and advanced telecommunication services to rural Kansas. Note that KRITC KUSF support is never determined prior to investment; rather, it is only determined by the KCC *after* investment has already been made.
- **Page 26, Lines 17-25, Amendment of K.S.A. 66-2008** - This amendment directs the KCC to act within 240 days on a KRITC request for supplemental KUSF support or an audit of KRITC KUSF support. The 240 days is a Kansas statutory rate case standard interval. The KRITCs believe this amendment is important to reasonably streamline the KCC regulatory process.