

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON UTILITIES.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Carl D. Holmes at 9:10 a.m. on March 5, 2004 in Room 231-N of the Capitol.

All members were present except: Representative Eric Carter

Committee staff present: Mary Galligan, Legislative Research
Dennis Hodgins, Legislative Research
Mary Torrence, Revisor of Statutes
Jo Cook, Administrative Assistant

Conferees appearing before the committee: Representative Tom Sloan
Tom Gleason, Kansas Rural Independent Telephone Companies
Janet Buchanan, Kansas Corporation Commission

Others attending: See Attached List

HR 6026 - Resolution requesting State Corporation Commission to take certain actions regarding high speed Internet service

Chairman Holmes opened the hearing on **HR 6026**.

Representative Tom Sloan, sponsor of the Resolution, testified in support of **HR 6026** (Attachment 1). Representative Sloan told the committee that the Resolution reflected his continuing desire to provide high speed Internet access to all Kansans. He also stated that it was an effort to obtain the necessary information for future legislative bodies to make responsible public policy.

Tom Gleason, appearing on behalf of the Kansas Rural Independent Telephone Companies, testified in opposition to **HR 6026** (Attachment 2). Mr. Gleason stated that rural companies were working to fill their customers' advanced high-speed service needs and that the Resolution could cause some companies to suspend their current plans for additional deployment.

Janet Buchanan, Chief of Telecommunications for the Kansas Corporation Commission, shared the Commission's views on **HR 6026** (Attachment 3). Ms. Buchanan is concerned that the Commission may not be able to provide the quality of information that may be expected from the report requested by the Resolution. She stated that some of the information required would be requested from non-jurisdictional entities and there is nothing that can compel them to comply with the request. The Commission asked for additional clarifying language so that they can provide the type of information required.

Representative Sloan, Mr. Gleason, and Ms. Buchanan responded to questions from the committee.

Chairman Holmes closed the hearing on **HR 6026**.

SB 382 - Recovery of certain costs of security measures, public utilities

Chairman Holmes opened the debate on **SB 382**.

Representative Sloan moved to change the date on line 33 to July 1, 2008. Representative Reitz seconded the motion. The motion carried. Representative Long-Mast moved to recommend SB 382, as amended, favorable for passage. Representative Reitz seconded the motion. The motion carried. Representative Reitz will carry the bill.

The meeting adjourned at 10:06 a.m.

The next meeting will be Tuesday, March 9, 2004.