

MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMERCE COMMITTEE.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Karin Brownlee at 8:30 a.m. on February 13, 2003 in Room 123-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except: Senator Kerr, absent

Committee staff present: April Holman, Legislative Research
Deb Hollon, Legislative Research
Mitch Rice, Revisor of Statutes
Norman Furse, Revisor of Statutes
Jodie Anspaugh, Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee: April Holman, Legislative Research
Amy Yarkoni, Cingular

Others attending: See attached list.

Chairperson Brownlee opened the hearings on SB 153 and 180. She hopes the committee will be able to come to a resolution on Enhanced 911 this year. April Holman from Legislative Research gave an overview of the two bills. She read various portions of each bill and explained that the Association of Counties originally requested SB 153 and the wireless industry originally requested SB 180. Ms. Holman distributed a State Wireless Funding Table, current as of November 2001, that explains how other states are funding their E911 programs. (Attachment 1) She answered questions from her testimony regarding possible federal monies available and additional employees for the KCC. She said she will prepare a side-by-side comparison of the two bills.

Amy Yarkoni, Director of External Affairs for Cingular Wireless, testified in support of SB 180 on behalf of Alltel, AT&T Wireless, Cingular, Sprint PCS, T-Mobile, Verizon, and Western Wireless. (Attachment 2) These carriers combined provide wireless service to an estimated 90% of Kansas wireless customers. Some of the states around Kansas have a 50 cent fee for E911, and Ms. Yarkoni believes this is sufficient. She is not aware of any available federal funding for E911. The companies Ms. Yarkoni testified on behalf of agree to a 50 cent customer surcharge, public safety and wireless carrier cost recovery, neutral program administration, efficient and required deployment, limitations on liability, and no technology mandate. Ms. Yarkoni distributed a packet of information to the committee, CC Docket No. 94-102 from the Federal Communications Commission, a Revision of the Commission's Rules to Ensure Compatibility with Enhanced 911 Emergency Calling Systems. (Attachment 3) Ms. Yarkoni answered questions, and confirmed that no matter what is done, they will not have basic service for many people until the towers are built. There will be dead zones, even in 20 years. Ms. Yarkoni said she cannot share what a wireless carrier's legitimate costs are because that information is proprietary.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMERCE COMMITTEE at 8:30 a.m. on February 13, 2003 in Room 123-S of the Capitol.

Chairperson Brownlee announced that the committee will meet at 8:15 a.m. tomorrow morning.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 a.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for February 14, 2003 at 8:15 a.m. in Room 123-S.