

Chairman Seiwert House Utilities Committee Written testimony in support of SB 69 3/19/2019

Chairman Seiwert and Committee Members,

Kansans for Lower Electric Rates is a group of Kansas businesses, both large and small, and private individuals that are concerned with the high electricity rates in the State. Electric rates in Kansas have increased nearly 70% in the past ten years. High electricity prices have become a problem for all Kansans. The impact of high electric rates is felt by citizens on fixed incomes all the way to new businesses who won't enter the State due to the high cost of their utility bills. This is a problem the legislature must address immediately.

Sub SB 69 is a great proactive first step to help understand the problems but, more importantly, begin to find the right solutions moving forward. Kansans for Lower Electric Rates has been at the table from the beginning for the negotiations that led to SB 69. We believe everyone on all sides of this issue have not only worked diligently and in good faith, but have arrived at a compromise that is a good legislative product. We want to thank the utility members who were willing to work with us on this bill and their input that improved its content. Once the study is concluded we look forward to working with the utilities, KCC and legislature, to help our state arrive at constructive, common sense solutions to benefit all rate payers in Kansas. We respectfully urge the committee to pass Sub Sb. 69. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Gavin Kreidler