



To: Selected Municipal Water and Sewer Utilities

From: Kim Winn, LKM and Mark Tomb, LKM

Date: January 12, 2007

Re: SB 20 Places Costly Mandates on Water and Sewer Utilities

**Your City is one of 308 cities that will be impacted by Senate Bill 20.** This proposed piece of legislation would mandate participation in the Kansas One-Call program for all water and sewer utilities. One-Call is the State's call before you dig program for underground utilities. **This bill will be considered by the Senate Utilities Committee at 9:30 a.m. on January 18, 2007 in Room 526-S of the State Capitol.**

Currently, membership in One-Call for water and sewer utilities is voluntary, this bill would force your city to join the program and bear all the costs associated with membership. These costs would include:

- All costs associated with locating existing water and sewer lines and producing a reliable map for locate requests.
- A yearly \$25.00 membership fee.
- A \$1.14 charge every time the One-Call Center receives a request from within your jurisdiction to support overhead of the system.
- Additional staff time and equipment costs associated with locating and marking underground water and/or sewer lines when requests are made to the One-Call Center. This cost is estimated by existing voluntary members at approximately \$15 per locate.
- The legislation would significantly erode the liability of excavators that damage water and sewer lines. This would result in the costs associated with damages to be passed on to utility ratepayers.

In most jurisdictions that are not already voluntary members of Kansas One-Call system, the cost of complying with this mandate will far exceed the annual damage caused by excavation.

***Action requested:*** It is important that city officials who are interested in this issue contact members of the Senate Utilities Committee and ask them to **oppose SB 20**. Even if your Senator is not a member of this Committee, we request that you contact Committee members and let them know your position on this issue (contact information on back).

Members of the Senate Utilities Committee:

Jay Emler	Chairperson	(785) 296-7354	<a href="mailto:emler@senate.state.ks.us">emler@senate.state.ks.us</a>
Pat Apple	Vice Chairperson	(785) 296-7380	<a href="mailto:apple@senate.state.ks.us">apple@senate.state.ks.us</a>
Janis Lee	Ranking Member	(785) 296-7366	<a href="mailto:lee@senate.state.ks.us">lee@senate.state.ks.us</a>
Marci Francisco		(785) 296-7364	<a href="mailto:francisco@senate.state.ks.us">francisco@senate.state.ks.us</a>
Mike Petersen		(785) 296-7355	<a href="mailto:petersen@senate.state.ks.us">petersen@senate.state.ks.us</a>
Roger Pine		(785) 296-7372	<a href="mailto:pine@senate.state.ks.us">pine@senate.state.ks.us</a>
Dennis Pyle		(785) 296-7379	<a href="mailto:pyle@senate.state.ks.us">pyle@senate.state.ks.us</a>
Roger Reitz		(785) 296-7360	<a href="mailto:reitz@senate.state.ks.us">reitz@senate.state.ks.us</a>
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For more information on this issue, please contact Kim Winn at [kwinn@lkm.org](mailto:kwinn@lkm.org) or Mark Tomb at [mtomb@lkm.org](mailto:mtomb@lkm.org) or by phone at (785) 354-9565.