

Approved: April 2, 2003
Date

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON UTILITIES.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Carl D. Holmes at 9:08 a.m. on February 10, 2003 in Room 526-S of the Capitol.

All members were present.

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:
Charles Benjamin, Sierra Club
Bruce Snead
Tom Day, Kansas Corporation Commission

Others attending: See Attached List

HB 2131 - Update of energy efficiency standards for new commercial and industrial buildings

Chairman Holmes opened the hearing on **HB 2131**.

Charles Benjamin, appearing on behalf of the Sierra Club, testified in support of **HB 2131** (Attachment 1). Mr. Benjamin stated they urged the committee to find any way possible to assist the state with energy efficiency options and upgrades in order to cut utility bills and decrease air pollution and greenhouse gases.

Bruce Snead, a member of an External Committee for the State Energy Resources Coordination Council (SERCC), spoke to the committee as a proponent of **HB 2131** (Attachment 2). Mr. Snead stated that this bill was a result of the SERCC's meetings and was one of their requests outlined in the Kansas Energy Plan 2003.

Tom Day, Legislative Liaison for the Kansas Corporation Commission, addressed the committee in support of **HB 2131** (Attachment 3). Mr. Day, on behalf of the Commission's Energy Programs Division, stated that a number of Kansas jurisdictions were in the process of adopting the new guidelines for their local energy building codes and the state should be leading the way.

Gene Meyer, Extension Mechanical Engineer with Kansas State University, provided written testimony in support of **HB 2131** (Attachment 4).

Mr. Benjamin, Mr. Snead, and Mr. Day responded to questions from the committee. Copies of the statute in question were distributed for clarification (Attachment 5).

Chairman Holmes closed the hearing on **HB 2131**.

Tom Day distributed two documents in response to a request by the committee for information. The first document was on broadband services in Kansas as of December 31, 2002 and the second was a memorandum from Janet Buchanan, Chief of Telecommunications, with the tariffs setting out rates for physical and virtual collocation as established through a Stipulation and Agreement approved by the Commission in Docket

Number 00-SWBT-733-TAR. Copies of these documents are available from Kansas Legislative Research Department or the Kansas Corporation Commission. Mr. Day responded to questions from the committee.

Chairman Holmes opened discussion regarding the upcoming debate on **HB 2019** and asked the committee to comment if they were planning to present amendments. Representative Myers stated he would be presenting amendments. Representative Sloan distributed a memorandum (Attachment 6) detailing his proposed amendments. Representative Neighbor indicated she would be offering a resolution as a possible substitute. Representatives Dillmore and Kuether also indicated they had amendments to offer.

The meeting adjourned at 10:15.

The next meeting will be Tuesday, February 11, 2003 at 9:00 a.m.