**HOUSE BILL No. 2521** 

By Committee on Appropriations

2-16

AN ACT amending and supplementing the Kansas underground utility damage prevention act; amending K.S.A. 2000 Supp. 66-1801, 66-1802, 66-1803, 66-1811, 66-1812 and 66-1813 and repealing the existing sections; also repealing K.S.A. 2000 Supp. 66-1804, 66-1805, 66-1806, 66-1807, 66-1809 and 66-1810.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:

Section 1. **On and after January 1, 2002,** K.S.A. 2000 Supp. 66-1801 is hereby amended to read as follows: 66-1801. *(a)* This act shall be known and may be cited as the Kansas underground utility damage prevention act.

- (b) This act prescribes minimum requirements for operators of underground facilities, excavators and a notification center regarding requests for locating underground facilities and the subsequent locating of such facilities.
- Sec. 2. **On and after January 1, 2002,** K.S.A. 2000 Supp. 66-1802 is hereby amended to read as follows: 66-1802. As used in this act:
  - (a) "Damage" means:
- (1) Any impact or contact with an underground facility, *or* its appurtenances or its protective coating, or, which requires repair;
- (2) any weakening of the support for the facility, or *its* protective housing, which requires repair; *or*
- (3) any failure to properly replace the backfill surrounding an underground facility.
- (b) "Emergency" means any condition constituting which constitutes a clear and present danger to life, health or property, or a customer service outage which requires immediate corrections in order to assure continuity of service to a customer.
- (c) "Excavation" means any operation in which earth, rock or other material below the surface is moved or otherwise displaced by any means, except with the following exceptions:
- (1) Tilling the soil, or to a depth of less than 20 inches for normal agricultural purposes;
  - (2) railroad or road and ditch maintenance that does not change the

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existing railroad grade, road grade and/or ditch flowline, or; or

- (3) operations related to exploration and production of crude oil or natural gas, or both, that do not take place in a public access right-of-way.
- (d) "Excavator" means any person who engages directly in excavation activities within the state of Kansas, but shall not include any occupant of a dwelling who:
  - (1) Uses such dwelling as a primary residence; and
  - (2) excavates on the premises of such dwelling.
- (e) (1) "Facility" means any underground line, system or structure used for *transporting*, gathering, storing, conveying, transmitting or distributing gas, electricity, communication, crude oil, refined or processed petroleum, petroleum products or, hazardous liquids; sewage, potable water or other liquids.
  - (2) Facility shall not include, any the following:
- (A) Storm water sewers installed before January 1, 2002; or (B) production petroleum lead lines, salt water disposal lines or injection lines, which are located on unplatted land or but only if such lines are not located on platted land and are located outside of any public access rightof way and more than one mile outside the corporate limits of any city which are used in the production of natural gas, but only if such lines are located outside any public access right-of-way or if such lines are located inside a public access right-of-way but are clearly marked in a manner sufficient to provide notice of their location; (C) other production petroleum lead lines located on unplatted land outside the corporate limits of any city; (D) any rural water district facility exempt from the provisions of this act pursuant to section 10, and amendments thereto; or (E) facilities used to convey communications or electricity to street lights or traffic control devices or used to provide utility service to a public rest area facilities if: (i) Such facilities are owned and operated by a public entity; (ii) the easement where such facilities are located is owned or controlled by the public entity; and (iii) an excavator, before excavating in the easement, is required to obtain from the public entity a permit which requires, at a minimum, that the excavator comply with the provisions of this act at the proposed excavation site.
- (f) "Locatable facility" means facilities for which the tolerance zone can be determined by the operator using generally accepted practices such as as-built construction drawings, system maps, probes, locator devices and other types of proven technology for locating.
- (g) "Marking" means the use of stakes, paint, flags or other clearly identifiable materials to show the field location of underground facilities,

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in accordance with the resolution adopted August, 1984, by resolutions of the utility location coordination council of the American public work works association.

- (h) "Meet on site" means a meeting between a facility operator and excavator which occurs at the site of the proposed excavation.
- (g) (i) "Municipality" means any city, county, municipal corporation, public district or public authority located in whole or in part within this state which provides firefighting, law enforcement, ambulance, emergency medical or other emergency services.
- (h) (j) "Notification center" means the statewide communication system operated by an organization which has as one of its purposes to receive and record notification of planned excavation in the state from excavators and to disseminate such notification of planned excavation to operators who are members and participants.
- (i) (k) "Operator" means any person who owns or operates an underground facility, except for any person who is the owner of real property wherein is located underground facilities for the purpose of furnishing services or materials only to such person or occupants of such property.
- (j) (l) "Preengineered project" means a public project or a project which is approved by a public agency wherein-and, as part of its engineering and contract procedures:
- (1) The public agency responsible for the project, as part of its engineering and contract procedures, holds a meeting prior to the commencement of any construction work on such project in which all persons, determined by the public agency to have underground facilities located within the construction area of the project, are invited to attend and given an opportunity to verify or inform the public agency of the location of their underground facilities, if any, within the construction area and where;
- (2) the location of all known and underground facilities are duly located or noted on the *updated* engineering drawings as specifications for the project; and
- (3) additional meetings will be held in which all persons determined by the public agency to have underground facilities located within the construction area of the project are invited to attend if any changes to the engineering drawings occur after the initial meeting meeting conducted in accordance with subsection (1)(1).
- (k) (m) "Permitted project" means a project where a permit for the work to be performed:
  - (1) Must be issued by a city, county, state or federal agency; and,
- (2) has as a prerequisite to receiving such permit, a requirement that the applicant must locate all underground facilities in the area of the work and in the vicinity of the excavation and notify each owner of such un-

derground facilities.

- (1) (n) "Person" means any individual, partnership, corporation, association, franchise holder, state, city, county or any governmental subdivision or instrumentality of a state and its employees, agents or legal representatives.
- (o) "Platted land" means a tract or parcel of land that has been divided into two or more parts for the purpose of sale or subdivided for the purpose of building developments, including housing subdivisions, and for which a surveyor's plat has been filed of record in the office of the register of deeds in the county where the land is located.
- (p) "Production petroleum lead line" means underground facilities used for production, gathering and preparation for delivery of hydrocarbon gas and/or liquids. Such facilities include underground lines associated with fuel and those associated with salt water disposal and injection.
- (q) "Public access right-of-way" means any public street or highway and the contiguous area within 75 feet of each side of the right of way of such street or highway federal highway, state highway, county road or township road, and the right-of-way associated with such highway or road.
- (r) "Reasonable care" means the precautions taken by excavators to conduct an excavation in a careful and prudent manner, including excavation by hand, to determine the precise location of an underground facility. Reasonable care includes, but is not limited to, maintaining a reasonable clearance between any marked underground facility and the cutting edge or point of any mechanized equipment.
- (s) "Tier 1 facility" means an underground facility used for transporting, gathering, storing, conveying, transmitting or distributing gas, electricity, communication, crude oil, refined or reprocessed petroleum, petroleum products or hazardous liquids.
- (t) "Tier 2 facility" means an underground facility used for transporting, gathering, storing, convey, transmitting or distributing potable water or sewage, including storm sewers constructed on or after January 1, 2002.
- (m) (u) "Tolerance zone" means the area within 24 inches of the outside dimensions in all horizontal directions of an underground facility.
- (v) "Update" means an additional request from the excavator to extend the time period of the request for intent to excavate beyond the 15 calendar day duration of the request.
- (w) "Whitelining" means as an excavator's act of marking the route or boundary of a proposed excavation site with white paint, white stakes or white flags.
- (n) (x) "Working day" means every day Monday through Friday beginning at 12:01 a.m., except Saturday, Sunday or a legally proclaimed

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 local, state or federal holiday for the following officially recognized holidays: New Year's day, Memorial day, Independence day, Labor day, Thanksgiving day, the day after Thanksgiving day and Christmas day.

- Sec. 3. **On and after January 1, 2002,** K.S.A. 2000 Supp. 66-1803 is hereby amended to read as follows: 66-1803. (a) This statute prescribes minimum requirements for excavators regarding a request for locating underground facilities and subsequent excavating operations near or adjacent to such facilities.
- (b) An excavator shall not engage in excavation near the location of any underground facility without first having ascertained, in the manner prescribed in this act section, a location of all underground facilities in the proposed area of the excavation.
- (c) Except in the case of an emergency, an excavator shall give notice of intent to excavate on each operator having underground facilities located in the proposed area of excavation as follows:
- (1) the **The** notice of intent to excavate shall be given no earlier than 15 calendar days before the excavation is to begin.
- (2) The notice of intent to excavate shall be given no later than two full working days before the excavation is to begin. The two full working days do not include the day notice of intent to excavate is filed with the notification center.
- (3) Notice of intent to excavate shall be given by notifying the notification center through communication methods approved by the center; including telephone and facsimile.
- (4) For Tier 2 members of the notification center, notice of intent to excavate shall be given by directly notifying the operator at the telephone number provided by the notification center.
- (d) The notice of intent to excavate or any subsequent updates shall be valid for 15 calendar days after the date the excavation starts scheduled excavation start date.
  - (e) The notice of intent to excavate shall contain:
- (1) the **The** name, address and telephone number of the person giving the notice of intent of excavation;
  - (2) the name of the excavator:
  - (3) the date the excavation activity is to commence;
  - (4) the type and depth of excavation being planned; and
  - (5) a description of the excavation, including;
- (A) the **The** street address, if available, and the location of the excavation at the street address;
- (B) at the request of the operator, an accurate description of the excavation area using any available designations such as closest street, road, intersection or additional information as requested by the notification center; or

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- (C) the specific legal description down to the level of a quarter section, including longitude and latitude coordinates if possible, if the planned activity is outside the boundaries of any city;
- (f) The excavator shall have at the excavation site the description included in the the notice of intent to excavate and the locate ticket number issued by the notification center.
- (g) The person giving the notice of intent to excavate shall whiteline the proposed excavation site when the description of the excavation location cannot be described with sufficient detail to enable the operator to ascertain the precise tract or parcel involved. If marking a proposed excavation site in that manner is impractical, an excavator or an operator may request a meet on site.
- (h) If either party requests a meet on site as part of the description of the proposed excavation, the party requesting the meet shall document the meet on site and any subsequent meetings with a record signed by representatives of the excavator and the operator.
- (i) The notice of intent to excavate shall only describe an area in which the proposed excavation can reasonably be completed within 15 calendar days after the date on which excavation is scheduled to begin.
- (j) No person shall make repeated requests for remarking, unless the request is due to circumstances not reasonably within the control of such person.
- (k) Except for the requirement to serve notice of intent to excavate as provided in subsections (c)(3) and (c)(4), the provisions of subsections (c) and (d) shall not apply to a preengineered project or a permitted project.
- (l) In the case of an emergency, notice of intent to excavate without the use of explosives shall be given to the notification center as soon as possible. However, excavation may commence prior to a response from the operator. any Any person providing a misrepresentation of an emergency excavation may be subject to the penalties provided in K.S.A. 2000 Supp. 66-1812, and amendments thereto.
- (m) Upon receiving information giving the approximate location of under ground underground facilities as provided in sections 8 and 9, and amendments thereto, and when there is evidence of the existence of underground facilities in and near the construction area, an excavator shall exercise such reasonable care as may be necessary for the protection of any underground facility, including, but not limited to:
- (1) Reasonable steps necessary to properly protect, support and backfill underground facilities.
- (2) If the proposed excavation will use an excavation technique, such as boring or cable plowing, that does not allow the excavator to visually observe the placement of the new facility, the excavator shall make a reasonable attempt, by pot holing or hand digging before the excavation

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begins, to determine the depth of determine that the excavation for the new facility will not interfere with any facilities located in and near the proposed excavation site.

- (3) Reasonable steps to maintain the markings that indicate the location of underground facilities throughout the excavation period.
- (n) An excavator using a trenchless excavation technique shall meet minimum operating guidelines as prescribed in rules and regulations adopted by the state corporation commission pursuant to this act.
- (o) Excavation activity may begin two working days after the day on which the notice of intent to excavate has been given on the scheduled excavation start date or when all facilities in and near the proposed excavation site are marked by the operator, whichever occurs sooner. If a meet on site is requested, the excavation activity may begin two working days after the meet on site has occurred or when all facilities in and near the proposed excavation site are marked by the operator, whichever occurs sooner.
- (p) Notwithstanding the lack of accurate information provided by an operator pursuant to sections 8 and 9, and amendments thereto, no excavator shall proceed in an excavation activity that results in gross negligence or willful and wanton with negligent disregard of underground facilities.
- (q) When any contact with or damage to any underground facility occurs, the excavator shall immediately inform the operator.
- (r) If contact with or damage to any underground facility results in penetration of the protective covering of an electrical line or in the release of dangerous gases or fluids, the excavator immediately shall inform emergency personnel of the municipality or area in which the electrical short or broken line is located and take any other action as may be reasonably necessary to protect persons and property and to minimize the hazards until arrival of the operator's personnel or police and fire departments.
- Sec. 4. **On and after January 1, 2002,** K.S.A. 2000 Supp. 66-1811 is hereby amended to read as follows: 66-1811. (a) In a civil action in a court of this state when it is shown by competent evidence that personal injury, death or other damages, including damage to any underground facilities, occurred as a result of a violation of this act, there shall be a rebuttable presumption of negligence on the part of the violator.
- (b) The provisions of subsection (a) shall not apply if the operator whose underground facilities are damaged fails to participate in the notification center.
- (c) In no event shall If an excavator uses reasonable care while excavating, the excavator shall not be responsible for any associated damage that occurs as a result of damage to underground facilities if such damage was caused by the failure of the operator to correctly and properly mark

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the location of the tolerance zone of the damaged facility within the time requirements set out in subsection (c) of section 8 and subsection (d) of section 9, and amendments thereto.

- (d) If an excavator uses reasonable care while excavating, the excavator shall not be responsible for any associated damage that occurs as a result of damage to underground facilities if the underground facility damage was caused by the operator of tier 2 facilities electing to not locate such facilities as allowed by subsection (d)(3) of section 9, and amendments thereto.
- (e) Nothing in this act is intended to limit or modify the provisions of:
  - (1) K.S.A. 60-258a, and amendments thereto; or
- (2) the national electrical safety code, which would otherwise be applicable.
- Sec. 5. **On and after January 1, 2002,** K.S.A. 2000 Supp. 66-1812 is hereby amended to read as follows: 66-1812. Any person to whom this act applies, who violates any of the provisions contained in this act, shall be subject to civil penalties and injunctive relief as set out in K.S.A. 66-1,151, and amendments thereto, and any remedies established is in rules and regulations adopted by the state corporation commission pursuant to this act.
- Sec. 6. **On and after January 1, 2002,** K.S.A. 2000 Supp. 66-1813 is hereby amended to read as follows: 66-1813. *(a)* This act shall be administered and enforced by the state corporation commission of the state of Kansas.
- (b) The state corporation commission shall adopt rules and regulations to administer and enforce the provisions of this act.
- New Sec. 7. (a) This act recognizes the establishment of a single notification center for the state of Kansas.
- (b) The notification center shall provide prompt notice of any proposed excavation to each affected operator that is a tier 1 member of the the notification center and has facilities recorded with the notification center in the area of a proposed excavation site.
- (c) The notification center shall also provide the excavator with the name and telephone number of each operator that is a tier 2 member and has facilities recorded with the notification center in the area of the proposed excavation.
- (d) The notification center shall maintain for a period of four years a suitable record to document the receipt of notices of intent to excavate, including:
  - (1) An audio A record of each notice of intent to excavate; and
- (2) a written or electronic version of the notification sent to each operator that is a tier 1 member.

- (e) Upon request, a copy of the record documenting notice of intent to excavate shall be furnished by an operator or by the notification center to the state corporation commission or to the person giving the notice of intent to excavate.
- (f) The notification center shall establish and maintain a quality control program that assures adequate training of employees receiving and recording notices of intent to excavate.
- (g) This section shall be part of and supplemental to the Kansas underground utility damage prevention act.

## (h) The provisions of this section shall take effect and be in force from and after January 1, 2002.

- New Sec. 8. (a) This statute prescribes minimum requirements for operators of tier 1 facilities regarding their responsibilities to mark the location of their facilities for the area described in the notice of intent to excavate.
- (b) Each operator of a tier 1 facility shall become a tier 1 member of the notification center. Tier 1 membership shall require the operator to:
- (1) File and maintain with the notification center accurate maps of the operator's underground facilities or a map showing the operator's service area;
- (2) file and maintain current operator telephone contact numbers that can be accessed on a 24-hour-per-day basis; and
- (3) pay costs incurred by the notification center for maintaining an accurate database of tier 1 members' facilities and disseminating information regarding those facilities to excavators.
- (c) Within two working days, beginning on the first working day after an excavator has filed a notice of intent to excavate **or before the scheduled excavation start date**, an operator of tier 1 facilities, unless otherwise agreed between the parties, shall:
- (1) inform the excavator of the location of the operator's underground facilities in the area described in the intent to excavate; or
- (2) notify the excavator that the operator has no facilities in the area described in the notice of intent to excavate.
- (d) The operator of a tier 1 facility shall inform an excavator of the location of such facility by marking the location of the facility by flags, paint or other acceptable methods. If a tier 1 facility has outside dimensions of eight inches or larger, the operator of the facility shall mark the facility in such a way that the tolerance zone of the facility can be easily determined by the excavator. If a tier 1 facility has outside dimensions of less than eight inches, the operator of the facility shall mark the facility such that the location of the facility can be easily determined by the excavator.
  - (e) If the description listed in the notice of intent to excavate requests

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a meet on site, the operator of a tier 1 facility shall attend a meeting on a mutually agreed schedule but will have two working days after the meet on site to complete marking the area.

- (f) If an operator of a tier 1 facility has no underground facilities in the area of a proposed excavation, such operator, before the excavation start date, shall notify the excavator that the operator has no facilities in the area of proposed excavation. The notice shall be made by telephone, facsimile, marking the area all clear or other means that may be developed for such purposes.
- (g) If an excavator, within two working days after the initial identification of the location by the operator, notifies the notification center that the identifiers have been improperly removed or altered, the operator shall make a reasonable effort to reidentify the location within one working day after the operator receives actual notice from the notification center.
- (h) If an operator of a tier 1 facility receives a request to locate the operator's facilities in an emergency, the operator shall make a reasonable effort to identify the location of the operator's facilities within two hours after receiving the request or before excavation is scheduled to begin, whichever is later.
- (i) Upon receiving notice from an excavator of any contact with or damage to an underground facility, the operator shall immediately dispatch personnel to the location to provide necessary temporary or permanent repair of the damage.
- (j) Each operator of a tier 1 facility shall file an incident of damage report with the state corporation commission as provided in rules and regulations adopted by the commission pursuant to this act.
- (k) All facilities installed on or after January 1, 2002, by an operator of a tier 1 facility shall be locatable.
- (l) This section shall be part of and supplemental to the Kansas underground utility damage prevention act.

## (m) The provisions of this section shall take effect and be in force from and after January 1, 2002.

- New Sec. 9. (a) This statute prescribes minimum requirements for operators of tier 2 facilities regarding their responsibilities for compliance with the Kansas underground utility damage prevention act.
- (b) Each operator of a tier 2 facility shall become either a tier 1 or tier 2 member of the notification center. Tier 2 membership shall require the operator to:
- (1) File and maintain with the notification center accurate maps of the operator's underground facilities or a map showing the operator's service area;
  - (2) file and maintain current operator telephone contact numbers

that can be accessed on a 24-hour-per-day basis; and

- (3) pay costs incurred by the notification center for maintaining an accurate **a** database of tier 2 members' facilities and disseminating information regarding those facilities to excavators.
- (c) Upon receiving a request from an excavator to locate facilities, a tier 2 member shall:
- (1) Maintain, for a period of four years, a record for each excavator request received, including the notification center locate reference number; and
- (2) assign a unique facility reference number for each excavator request.
- (d) Within two working days, beginning on the first working day after being notified of an intent to excavate **or before the scheduled excavation start date**, an operator of tier 2 facilities shall:
- (1) Inform the excavator of the location of the operator's underground facilities in the area described in the intent to excavate, unless otherwise agreed between the parties;
- (2) notify the excavator that the operator has no facilities in the area described in the notice of intent to excavate; or
- (3) notify the excavator that the operator has facilities in the area described in the notice of intent to excavate but elects to not locate these facilities.
- (e) The operator of a tier 2 facility shall inform an excavator of the location of such facility by marking the location of the facility by flags, paint or other acceptable methods. If a tier 2 facility has outside dimensions of eight inches or larger, the operator of the facility shall mark the facility is such a way that the tolerance zone of the facility can be easily determined by the excavator. If a tier 2 facility has outside dimensions of less than eight inches, the operator of the facility shall mark the facility such that the location of the facility can be easily determined by the excavator.
- (f) If an excavator, within two working days after the initial identification of the location by the operator, notifies the notification center of a tier 2 facility, notifies such operator that the identifiers have been improperly removed or altered, the such operator shall make a reasonable effort to reidentify the location within one working day after the such operator receives actual notice from the notification center excavator.
- (g) If an operator of a tier 2 facility receives a request to locate the operator's facilities in an emergency, the operator shall make a reasonable effort to comply with the provisions of subsection (d)(1) or (d)(3) within two hours after receiving the request or before excavation is scheduled to begin, whichever is later.
  - (h) Each operator of a tier 2 facility shall file an incident of damage

report with the state corporation commission as provided in rules and regulations adopted by the commission pursuant to this act.

- (i) All facilities installed on or after January 1, 2002, by an operator of a tier 2 facility shall be locatable.
- (j) This section shall be part of and supplemental to the Kansas underground utility damage prevention act.
- (k) The provisions of this section shall take effect and be in force from and after January 1, 2002.
- New Sec. 10. (a) The board of directors of any rural water district organized or operating under the authority of K.S.A. 82a-612 et seq., and amendments thereto, may elect to exempt the facilities of such district from the provisions of this act by adopting and filing with the state corporation commission, before January 1, 2002, a resolution of the board providing for such exemption. Such board of directors subsequently may elect to make the facilities of such district subject to the provisions of this act by adopting and filing with the state corporation commission, a resolution of the board providing for such facilities to be subject to the provisions of this act.
- (b) Once the facilities of a rural water district organized or operating under the authority of K.S.A. 82a-612 et seq., and amendments thereto, are subject to the provisions of this act, the board of directors of such rural water district shall not have authority thereafter to exempt the facilities of such district from the provisions of this act.
- (c) This section shall be part of and supplemental to the Kansas underground utility damage prevention act.
- Sec. <del>10.</del> **11. On and after January 1, 2002,** K.S.A. 2000 Supp. 66-1801, 66-1802, 66-1803, 66-1804, 66-1805, 66-1806, 66-1807, 66-1809, 66-1810, 66-1811, 66-1812 and 66-1813 are hereby repealed.
- Sec. 41. 12. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after January 1, 2002, and its publication in the statute book.