

Senate Substitute for HOUSE BILL No. 2084

By Committee on Utilities

3-15

9 AN ACT relating to the state corporation commission; concerning tele-
10 communications; providing for a study of local service competition;
11 guidelines; report.
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13 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:*

14 Section 1. (a) Not later than 30 days following the effective date of
15 this section, the state corporation commission shall initiate a proceeding
16 to evaluate the development and status of local service competition in
17 areas of the state served by local exchange carriers that have elected price
18 cap regulation pursuant to subsection (b) of K.S.A. 66-2005, and amend-
19 ments thereto. Such proceeding shall:

20 (1) Review guidelines established pursuant to subsection (n) of K.S.A.
21 66-2005, and amendments thereto, for reducing regulation prior to price
22 deregulation of price cap regulated services, and modify such guidelines
23 where appropriate;

24 (2) develop recommendations for the adoption of objective criteria
25 under which the existence of competition provides adequate protection
26 for consumers, permitting price deregulation of services or baskets of
27 services; and

28 (3) establish processes for periodic review of competition in markets
29 where price deregulation has been approved and for reimposition of price
30 regulation where competition shall have ceased to provide adequate pro-
31 tection for consumers.

32 In such proceeding the commission shall consider the extent to which
33 competitive, technological and regulatory neutrality consistent with the
34 public interest may be assured in the provision of local service.

35 (b) Not later than the first day of the 2006 legislative session, the
36 commission shall prepare and submit a report to the chairperson of the
37 committee on utilities of the senate and the chairperson of the committee
38 on utilities of the house of representatives of the commission's findings
39 under subsection (a). Such report shall include an analysis of the status
40 of local service competition in areas of the state served by local exchange
41 carriers that have elected price cap regulation pursuant to subsection (b)
42 of K.S.A. 66-2005, and amendments thereto, and recommendations for
43 the adoption of objective criteria under which price deregulation may be

1 authorized in a manner which will protect consumers, safeguard universal
2 service, ensure that consumers may reap the benefits of competition,
3 maximize the use of market forces and promote development of the tel-
4 ecommunications infrastructure throughout the state.

5 Sec. 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its
6 publication in the Kansas register.