Session of 2005

HOUSE BILL No. 2530

By Committee on Appropriations

3-17

10 AN ACT concerning natural gas; relating to curtailment of service to 11 certain consumers; prescribing procedures related thereto; amending 12 K.S.A. 66-105a and repealing the existing section.

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

Section 1. K.S.A. 66-105a is hereby amended to read as follows: 66-105a. (a) On and after July 1, 1997, the term "public utility" as used in K.S.A. 66-104, and amendments thereto, and the term "common carriers" as used in K.S.A. 66-105, and amendments thereto, shall not include any gas gathering system, as defined in K.S.A. 55-150, and amendments thereto.

- (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a), for those persons providing gas gathering services in such a manner that allows end use customers to obtain natural gas from by direct connection to a gathering system, the commission shall have authority, upon complaint or petition or upon its own motion, to determine the reasonableness of, and regulate and supervise, any curtailment or proposed curtailment of natural gas that results in the loss of service to the end use customer. However, the commission's authority shall not extend to curtailments arising from contractual disputes between the owner or operator of the gathering system and the end use customer.
- (c) Any person providing gas gathering services in such a manner that allows the offering of natural gas from a gas gathering system to an end use customer shall give notice thereof to the commission and to each affected end use customer and public utility of its intent to curtail service that will result in the loss of natural gas service to the end use customer. Except in the case of an emergency, notice shall be provided at least 30 days prior to such curtailment and the commission shall hold a hearing and issue any orders relating thereto within 30 days after receipt of such notice. In the case of an emergency, notice shall be provided not less than 24 hours before curtailment within 24 hours before curtailment, except that service to a residential dwelling may be curtailed immediately if the person seeking the curtailment in good faith believes that an emergency exists. The person seeking

- immediate curtailment of service to a residential dwelling, within
 24 hours of the curtailment, shall report to the commission the
 basis for and evidence supporting the good faith belief that immediate curtailment was necessary. If the curtailment of service
 to a residential dwelling was not based upon a good faith belief
 and was unnecessary, as subsequently determined by the commission, the person requesting the curtailment shall be held responsible for the cost of the service curtailment, including any reconnection costs and temporary heating costs.
- 10 (d) Nothing contained in subsections (b) and (c) shall be construed to 11 diminish any authority vested in the commission prior to the effective 12 date of this act.
- 13 Sec. 2. K.S.A. 66-105a is hereby repealed.
- Sec. 3. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its publication in the Kansas register.