Session of 2009

SENATE BILL No. 285

By Committee on Ways and Means

2-24

AN ACT concerning the Kansas universal service fund; relating to KAN-ED funding; amending K.S.A. 2008 Supp. 66-2010 and repealing the existing section.

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

Section 1. K.S.A. 2008 Supp. 66-2010 is hereby amended to read as follows: 66-2010. (a) The commission shall utilize a competitive bidding process to select a neutral, competent and bonded third party to administer the KUSF.

- (b) The administrator shall be responsible for: (1) Collecting and auditing all relevant information from all qualifying telecommunications public utilities, telecommunications carriers or wireless telecommunications service providers receiving funds from or providing funds to the KUSF; (2) verifying, based on the calculations of each qualifying telecommunications carrier, telecommunications public utility or wireless telecommunications service provider, the obligation of each such qualifying carrier, utility or provider to generate the funds required by the KUSF; (3) collecting all moneys due to the KUSF from all telecommunications public utilities, telecommunications carriers and wireless telecommunications service providers in the state; and (4) distributing amounts on a monthly basis due to qualifying telecommunications public utilities, wireless telecommunications service providers and telecommunications carriers receiving KUSF funding.
- (c) Any information made available or received by the administrator from carriers, utilities or providers receiving funds from or providing funds to the KUSF shall not be subject to any provisions of the Kansas open records act and shall be considered confidential and proprietary.
- (d) The administrator shall be authorized to maintain an action to collect any funds owed by any telecommunications carrier, public utility or wireless telecommunications provider in the district court in the county of the registered office of such carrier, utility or provider or, if such carrier, utility or provider does not have a registered office in the state, such an action may be maintained in the county where such carrier's, utility's or provider's principal office is located. If such carrier, utility or provider

 has no principal office in the state, such an action may be maintained in the district court of any county in which such carrier, utility or provider provides service.

- (e) The KUSF administrator shall be responsible to ensure that funds do not fall below the level necessary to pay all amounts collectively owed to all qualifying telecommunications public utilities, wireless telecommunications service providers and telecommunications carriers. The administrator shall have the authority to retain and invest in a prudent and reasonable manner any excess funds collected in any period to help ensure that adequate funds are available to cover amounts payable in other periods.
- (f) (1) Before July 1, of each year, the chief executive officer of the state board of regents shall certify to the administrator of the KUSF the amount provided by appropriation acts to be expended from the KAN-ED fund for the fiscal year commencing the preceding July 1. Upon receipt of the certification of the chief executive officer of the state board of regents, the KUSF administrator shall add the amount certified to the amount annually required to fund the KUSF as determined pursuant to subsection (b).
- (2) On or before the 10th day of each month, the administrator of the KUSF shall pay from the KUSF to the state treasurer ½2 of the amount certified by the chief executive officer of the state board of regents pursuant to subsection (a) for the fiscal year preceding the fiscal year in which the payment is made. Upon the receipt of the payment, the state treasurer shall deposit the entire amount in the state treasury and credit it to the KAN-ED fund. Any such payments shall be made after all payments required by K.S.A. 66-2008, and amendments thereto, for the month are made from the KUSF.
- (3) Not more than the following shall be paid from the KUSF to the state treasurer pursuant to this subsection (f): In fiscal year 2006, \$10,000,000; in fiscal year 2007, \$8,000,000; in fiscal year 2008, \$6,000,000; and in fiscal year 2009, \$5,500,000.
- (4) The provisions of this subsection (f) shall expire on June 30, 2000. Thereafter, state general fund moneys shall be used to fund the KAN-ED network and such funding shall be of the highest priority along with education funding.
- (3) Not more than \$10,000,000 shall be paid from the KUSF to the state treasurer pursuant to this subsection (f) in any fiscal year fiscal years 2010, 2011 and 2012. The provisions of this subsection (f) shall expire on June 30, 2012.
- Sec. 2. K.S.A. 2008 Supp. 66-2010 is hereby repealed.
- Sec. 3. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its publication in the statute book.