

MINUTES OF THE SENATE UTILITIES COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Jay Emler at 9:30 A.M. on January 31, 2007 in Room 526-S of the Capitol.

Committee members absent:

Committee staff present: Raney Gilliland, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Tatiana Lin, KSU Legislative Fellow
Mike Corrigan, Revisor of Statutes
Ann McMorris, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Don Low, Kansas Corporation Commission
Bruce Snead, Kansas Energy Council
Paul Snider, Kansas City Power & Light
Paul Johnson, Kansas Catholic Conference
Colin Hansen, Kansas Municipal Utilities
Mark Schreiber, Westar Energy
Tom Thompson, Sierra Club
David Springe, Citizens' Utility Ratepayer Board
Sandy Jacquot, League of Kansas Municipalities
Chris Wilson, Kansas Builders

Others in attendance: See attached list

Introduction of Bills

Jere White, Kansas Cornrowers Association, requested introduction of a bill dealing with the natural gas access issues. He noted the Revisor's are in the process of drafting the language for this bill.

Moved by Senator Taddiken, seconded by Senator Reitz, approve introduction of a bill dealing with the natural gas access issues. Motion carried.

Chairman announced that final action is scheduled on **SB 49** on Wednesday, February 7.

Janet Buchanan of KCC has provided the information requested by the committee on **SB 49**.
(Attachment 1)

Chair opened the hearing on

SB 128 - Requiring certain electric utilities to provide energy conservation information to consumers, establishing the energy conservation promotion education advisory group.

Proponents:

Don Low, Kansas Corporation Commission, noted KCC has a general investigation open regarding utility energy efficiency programs and he listed five of the issues they will need to consider. (Attachment 2)

Bruce Snead of the Kansas Energy Council addressed several aspects of the **SB 128** and its benefits. He discussed recommended actions, responsible parties, implementation deadline, budget requirements, and pros and cons of the proposal. (Attachment 3)

Paul Snider, Kansas City Power & Light, stated an important part of **SB 128** is the flexibility it affords utilities to tailor education efforts to their own customers. He offered some suggested changes in the bill language. (Attachment 4)

Paul Johnson, Kansas Catholic Conference, requested two improvements to **SB 128** - (1) expand energy conservation education advisory group to include a representative from SRS LIHEAP; and (2) the advisory group should report annually to the Senate and House Utilities Committees on their progress. (Attachment 5)

Colin Hansen, Kansas Municipal Utilities, noted **SB 128** addresses the objective of having more informed

CONTINUATION SHEET

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groups of customers. **SB 128** attempts to understand and recognize the jurisdictional issues and concerns of our collective memberships. ([Attachment 6](#))

Mark Schreiber, Westar Energy, noted **SB 128** enhances the efforts of every utility to encourage customers to use energy efficiently. Two changes were offered in the language of the bill. ([Attachment 7](#))

Tom Thompson, Kansas Chapter of the Sierra Club, voiced support for **SB 128** because it promotes energy efficiency and conservation. ([Attachment 8](#))

David Springe, Citizens' Utility Ratepayer Board, presented some changes in the language of **SB 128** for the committee to consider. ([Attachment 9](#))

Opponents

Sandy Jacquot, League of Kansas Municipalities, voiced support for the establishment of an energy conservation education advisory group but had concerns about the language and offered some changes for the committee to consider. ([Attachment 10](#))

Chris Wilson, Kansas Building Industry Association, offered some changes to the language in **SB 128** and said she would be willing to participate in developing an amendment to the disclosure form. She provided ENERGY STAR Qualified Homes Codes & Standards Information. ([Attachment 11](#))

Chair closed the hearing on **SB 128**.

Adjournment.

Respectfully submitted.

Ann McMorris, Secretary

Attachments - 11