

MINUTES OF THE SENATE UTILITIES COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Pat Apple at 1:30 p.m. on February 7, 2011, in Room 548-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:
Sen. Ty Masterson, excused

Committee staff present:
Matt Sterling, Office of the Revisor of Statutes
Cindy Lash, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Heather O'Hara, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Ann McMorris, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the Committee:
Patrick Fucik, Sprint
Chris Carroll, AT&T

Others attending: See attached list.

Introduction of Bills

Moved by Senator Kultala, seconded by Senator Emler, to introduce a conceptual bill entailing several suggested changes in the KCC Report on Price Deregulation. Motion carried.

Moved by Senator Pyle, seconded by Senator Emler, to introduce a conceptual bill regarding the statute of limitations on sales tax refund from one year to three years. Motion carried.

Moved by Senator Merrick, seconded by Senator Emler, a conceptual bill on school bus drivers on unemployment bill. Motion carried.

Moved by Senator Merrick, seconded by Senator Pyle, a conceptual bill on tort reform. Motion carried.

Chair continued hearing and discussion on:
SB 50, concerning emergency communications service

Patrick Fucik, Sprint, responded to a request for additional information regarding Sprint's operations relative to their prepaid wireless services. (Attachment 1)

Chris Carroll, Director of External Affairs, AT&T, provided additional supporting documentation as a proponent of **SB 50**. (Attachment 2)

Cindy Lash, Kansas Legislative Research, provided further information on: (1) 911 Federal grant flow chart; (2) Current Kansas law flow chart; (3) comparison of the .55 cent funding and the .50 cent funding. (Attachment 3)

Chair closed the hearing on **SB 50**.

Chair Apple requested input from committee members of any additions, corrections and changes they would like to see incorporated into **SB 50**. Recommended time line for activating the coordinating council; allowance for retailers to cover administrative costs.

Senator Emler asked the committee to consider the policy issue of how the state is going to pay for the twelve disasters that have occurred in the past two years. He suggested that **SB 50** may be the vehicle to establish collection of funds specifically for a disaster fund over a period of years.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Ann McMorris
Committee Assistant
Attachments - 3