

Approved: February 2, 2000
Date

MINUTES OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION MANAGEMENT.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Jim Morrison at 3:30 p.m. on January 25, 2000 in Room 526-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except Representative McKinney.

Committee staff present:

Julian Efir, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Audrey Nogle, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Gary Deeter, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee: None

Others attending: See Attached List

The Chair outlined proposed legislation addressing the need for citizen access to broadband internet connections. He said Southwestern Bell Telephone Company is providing high-speed connections (Digital Subscriber Lines, or DSL) to selected Kansas cities, but rural areas are denied access. He said the Kansas Telecommunications Act of 1996 stipulates that any *bona fide* application for "enhanced universal service" to a local exchange carrier requires that a carrier design a deployment plan to meet the applicant's request and notify the Kansas Corporation Commission of its plan. If the KCC does not take action on the plan within 90 days, the deployment plan shall be deemed approved. The Chair said the proposed legislation would mandate DSL or broadband connections in response to such applications. A motion was made and passed unanimously to recommend SCIM sponsor such legislation. (Motion, Representative Burroughs, second, Representative Holmes).

Comments on various issues occurred. Members noted there are about 3 legislative bills addressing the Universal Service Fund. Southwestern Bell's broadband service plans effectively eliminate 16% of Kansas from DSL. Kansas Department of Transportation has contracted with fiber-optic companies to bury cable on Kansas highway right-of-ways. Staff noted that Executive Branch Chief Information Technology Officer Don Heiman is a resource to collaborate with KDOT on fiber-optic right-of-way contracts. The Chair discussed ISDN service for SCIM members. The Chair invited input from members for further SCIM meetings.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:25 p.m. **The next meeting is scheduled for January 27, 2000, in 526-S. The Chair will gather information from members before a joint meeting with the Joint Committee on Information Technology to hear a report about the Kansas Department of Agriculture's Passport Information System.**