

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE ENERGY AND UTILITIES COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Carl Holmes at 9:42 A.M. on February 15, 2008 in Room 783 of the Docking State Office Building.

All members were present except:

Dan Johnson-excused

Committee staff present:

Mary Galligan, Kansas Legislative Research  
Carol Toland, Kansas Legislative Research  
Melissa Doeblin, Revisor's Office  
Renaë Hansen, Committee Administrative Assistant

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Tom Sloan, State Representative, 45<sup>th</sup> District  
Mark Galbraith, State Library  
Rose Ann Seimans, Kansas Library Association  
John Federico, Kansas Cable Telecom Association  
Jim Gardner, AT&T

Others attending:

Thirty three including the attached list.

Hearing on:

**HB 2634-Grant program for deploying broadband service in underserved rural areas.**

Proponents:

Representative Tom Sloan offered testimony (Attachment 1), in support of **HB 2634** noting his passion for deploying broadband service to rural areas.

Mark Galbraith, Deputy Director, State Library, (Attachment 2), presented testimony in support of **HB 2634**. He noted that only about 20% of Kansas libraries have the internet access they need because of the cost of service and the geographical location of the library itself.

Rosanne Siemens, Executive Director, Kansas Library Association, (Attachment 3), spoke as a proponent to **HB 2634**, she noted a few suggestions to make the bill more workable for all local libraries.

Written Proponents:

Terry Holdren, Kansas Farm Bureau, (Attachment 4) offered written testimony in support of **HB 2634**.

Stan R. Ahlerich, President, Kansas Inc., (Attachment 5), presented written testimony in support of **HB 2634**.

Neutral:

Jim Gardner, AT&T, (Attachment 6), presented testimony on **HB 2634** and proposed some suggestions for changes to the bill.

Mike Murray, Embarq, (Attachment 7), offered testimony on **HB 2634**, noting some suggested proposed changes to the bill.

Opponents:

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE House Energy and Utilities Committee at 9:15 A.M. on February 15, 2008 in Room 783 of the Docking State Office Building.

John Federico, Kansas Cable Telecommunications Association, (Attachment 8), presented testimony in opposition to **HB 2634** regrettably for a well intended bill. He also referenced a recent report of the FCC that notes that broad band support was offered in 99 % of all zip codes, with 91.5 % of those zip codes having 3 or more options for broadband internet service.

Questions were asked and comments made by Representatives: Tom Sloan, Vern Swanson, Tom Moxley, Oletha Faust-Goudeau, Vaughn Flora, Forrest Knox, Peggy Mast, and Carl Holmes.

The hearing was closed on **HB 2634**.

Discussion on:

**HB 2639-Energy resources commission, establishment. Kansas energy science technology commission.**

Representative Tom Sloan moved to adopt the amendment, (Attachment 9), he presented, seconded by Representative Vaughn Flora..

Discussion on **HB 2639** by Representatives: Don Myers, Tom Sloan, Josh Svaty, Vaughn Flora, and Peggy Mast.

Josh Svaty moved to table **HB 2639**, seconded by Representative Rob Olson. Motion to Table passed.

Discussion on:

**HCR 5029-A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION urging Congress and the President of the United States to develop a program of capturing and storing carbon and other greenhouse gases.**

Representative Tom Sloan moved to pass out of committee favorable for passage **HCR 5029**, seconded by Representative Vern Swanson.

Discussion ensued between Representatives: Tom Sloan, Peggy Mast, Josh Svaty, and Forrest Knox.

Representative Tom Sloan called the question.

Motion to pass **HCR 5029**, failed, 5-9.

Discussion on:

**HB 2638-Location and mapping requirements for underground water facilities.**

Representative Tom Sloan move to amend **HB 2638**, (Attachment 10), seconded by Representative Rocky Fund.

Discussion ensued with Representatives: Don Myers, Tom Sloan, Rob Olson, Rocky Fund, Bill Light, Peggy Mast, and Forrest Knox.

Representative Rob Olson moved to table **HB 2638**, seconded by Representative Margaret Long. Motion to table passed, 10 -9.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE House Energy and Utilities Committee at 9:15 A.M. on February 15, 2008 in Room 783 of the Docking State Office Building.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday February 18, 2008.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:09 a.m.