Date

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON TELECOMMUNICATIONS.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Doug Lawrence at 1:45 p.m. on March 11, 1996 in Room 519-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Committee staff present: Lynne Holt, Legislative Research Department

Bob Nugent, Revisor of Statutes

Mary Ann Graham, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Others attending: See attached list

Chairman Doug Lawrence called the meeting to order at 1:45 p.m. He announced that the proposed Substitute Bill 2728 has been drafted and will be distributed for everyone to review. Copies were given to committee members. (See Attachment 1) Also copies of Comparison of Key Provisions of Kansas TSPC Proposal and HB 2728 were distributed. (See Attachment 2)

The Chairman reviewed the proposed bill which has seventeen sections, he reviewed and discussed the language in most of the sections. After he had completed discussing the bill he asked if committee members had any questions. A number of questions were raised and discussed.

The Chairman announced that tomorrow, March 12, has been set aside for public comments concerning the new proposed bill. Anyone interested in doing this needs to give their name to the committee secretary, no later than noon tomorrow. He also announced that he would be around after the meeting today to answer any questions people in the industry might have.

The meeting adjourned at 3:05 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 12, 1996.

HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE GUEST LIST

DATE: 3-11-96

NAME	REPRESENTING
CARL KREHBIEL	MOUNDRIDGE TELEPHONE CO,
Steve Sackrules	Wamera TEL Co. Fac
RICHARD VEACH	Provers Terestone
PD Lawson	Spoint / Whited
Stephen Minnis	Sout / Until
Barb Paschke	Regents
2101 & Shiles	100
JASON PHIS-NETRICER	BND SMOOT
John Reinhart	KPA
Rh Holges	Kra
Bill Sneed	8W Be/
DENNY S. KOCH	SW BELL
len Bahr	Comptel of Ls.
BILL BLASE	SWBT
John Petersa	Cantel of Karsus
Dubra Peterson	Sprint
Muchael Ensued	Comptel. to S
Heinemann	KCC
Tom Day	Kcc

HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE GUEST LIST

DATE: 3-11-96

NAME	REPRESENTING
Vay Scott Emler	KINI L.C.
M. CLARRISSIMOBUX	Classic
For Hein	Massic Communication
Julie Hein	/1
STEVE KEARNEY	KINI L.C.
tatrick Keisley	ATT
Lova Dowers	MCI
Mark Caplinger	SITA
John Pinegan	51TA
George Barbez	RTMC
Scott Ruhardson	SWBT
Cyndi Palla hes	SW37
Rosa Bales	KEPR
MKELURA	RTAT
Job Marnell	KCM Mid-America
Carroll O'Nes	AT+T
Mike Reacht	ATIT
1	CGI Long Distance
Dave Sones STEVE SAUDER	CGI Long Distance VALU-LINE B KANSAS

1	h2728
2 3	SUBSTITUTE FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 2728
2 3 4 5 6	By Committee on Appropriations
6	by committee on Appropriations
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AN &ACT	concerning telecommunications services; amending K.S.A. 66-1,187
9	and K.S.A. 1995 Supp. 75-4709 and repealing the existing
10	sections.
11	
12	Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:
13	Section 1. It is hereby declared to be the public policy
14	of the state to:
15	(a) Ensure that consumers throughout the state realize
16	the benefits of competition through increased services and improved
17	telecommunications facilities and infrastructure at reduced costs;
18	(b) promote consumer access to a full range of
19	telecommunications services, including advanced telecommunications
20	services that are comparable in urban and rural areas throughout
21	the state;
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23	(c) advance the development of a statewide
24	telecommunications infrastructure that is capable of supporting
25	applications, such as public safety, telemedicine, services for
26	persons with special needs, distance learning, public library
27	services, access to internet providers and others; and
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29	(d) protect consumers of telecommunications services from
30	fraudulent business practices and practices that are inconsistent
31	with the public interest, convenience, and necessity.
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33	Section 2. K.S.A. 66-1,187 is hereby amended to read as
34	follows: 66-1,187. As used in this act:
35	(a) "Broadband" means the transmission of digital
36	signals at rates equal to or greater than 1.5 megabits per second.

1	(b) "CLASS services" means custom local area signaling
2	services, which include automatic callback, automatic recall,
3	calling number identification, selective call rejection, selective
4	call acceptance, selective call forwarding, distinctive ringing and
5	customer originated trace.
6	(c) "Commission" means the state corporation commission.
7	(d) "Dialing parity" means that a person that is not an
8	affiliate of a local exchange carrier is able to provide
9	telecommunications services in such a manner that customers have
10	the ability to route automatically, without the use of any access
11	code, their telecommunications to the telecommunications services
12	provider of the customer's designation from among two or more
13	telecommunications services providers, including such local
14	exchange carrier.
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16	(e) **Federal act means the federal telecommunications
17	act of 1996, P.L. 104-104 (amending the communications act of 1934,
18	47 U.S.C. 151, et seg.)
19	(f) "ISDN" means integrated services digital network
20	which is a network and associated technology that provides
21	simultaneous voice and data communications over a single
22	communications channel.
23	(g) "LATA" has the meaning ascribed to it in the federal
24	act.
25	
26	(h) "Local exchange carrier" means any
27	telecommunications public utility or its successor providing
28	switched telecommunications service within any local exchange
29	service area, as approved by the commission on or before January 1,
30	1996. However, with respect to the Hill City exchange area in
31	which multiple carriers were certified by the commission prior to
32	January 1, 1996, the commission's determination, subject to any
33	court appeals, of which authorized carrier shall serve as the

carrier of last resort will determine which carrier shall be deemed

the local exchange carrier for that exchange.

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- 1 (i) "Number portability" has the meaning ascribed to it
 2 in the federal act.
- (j) "1+ intraLATA dialing parity means the ability of a

 local exchange service customer to specify the telecommunications

 or local exchange carrier that will carry the intraLATA long

 distance messages when that customer dials either "1" or "0" plus

 a 10 digit number.
 - (k) "Operating area" means:

- (1) In the case of a rural telephone company, operating area or service area means such company's study area or areas as approved by the federal communications commission;
 - (2) in the case of a local exchange carrier other than a rural telephone company, operating area or service area means such carrier's local exchange service area or areas as approved by the commission.
 - (1) Rural telephone company has the meaning ascribed to it in the federal act; excluding any local exchange carrier which together with all of its affiliates has 20,000 or more access lines in the state.
 - (m) "Telecommunications carrier means a corporation, company, individual, association of persons, their trustees, lessees or receivers that provides a telecommunications service, including but not limited to, interexchange carriers and competitive access providers, but not including local exchange carriers certified before January 1, 1996.
 - (n) "Telecommunications public utility" means any public utility, as defined in K.S.A. 66-104, and amendments thereto, which owns, controls, operates or manages any equipment, plant or generating machinery, or any part thereof, for the transmission of telephone messages, as defined in K.S.A. 66-104, and amendments thereto, or the provision of telecommunications services in or through any part of Kansas.
- (b) "Commission" means the state corporation commission.
- 34 (o) "Telecommunications service" means the provision of 35 a service for the transmission of telephone messages, or two way

<u>video or data messages.</u>

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(p) "Universal service" means telecommunications services and facilities which include single party, two-way voice grade calling; stored program controlled switching with vertical service capability, E911 capability, tone dialing, access to operator services, access to directory assistance, and equal access to long distance services.

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(q) Enhanced universal service, means telecommunications services in addition to those included in universal service, which shall include signaling system seven capability, with CLASS service capability; basic and primary rate ISDN capability; full fiber interconnectivity or the technological equivalent between central offices; and broadband capable facilities to all schools accredited pursuant to K.S.A. 72-1101 et seq., and amendments thereto, hospitals as defined in K.S.A. 65-425, and amendments thereto, public libraries, state and local government facilities which request broadband services. On or before January 1, 1997, the commission shall review the services to be included in enhanced universal service. Upon a finding that a service is:(1) not commercially viable in rural areas and not widely deployed in urban areas; or (2) technologically obsolete, the commission may exclude such service from the definition of enhanced universal service.

New Section 3. The commission shall:

27 (a) adopt a definition of **enhanced universal service, **
28 pursuant to subsection (q) of section 2;

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(b) authorize any requesting telecommunications carrier to provide local exchange or exchange access service pursuant to subsection (a) of section 4;

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(c) initiate an investigation and issue an order pursuant to section 5, adopting guidelines for granting certificates to any

5 1 telecommunications carrier applying to provide local exchange or exchange access service in any operating area of the state served 2 3 by a rural telephone company; 4 5 (d) review, approve, and ensure compliance with network infrastructure plan submitted by a local exchange carrier pursuant 6 7 to section 6; 8 9 review, approve, and ensure compliance regulatory plans submitted by local exchange carriers pursuant to 10 section 6; 11 12 13 . (f) on or before January 1, 1997, establish, pursuant to section 7, the Kansas lifeline service fund, hereinafter referred 14 15 to as the KLSF; 16 17 (g) initiate and complete a proceeding by January 1, 18 1997, to establish a competitively neutral mechanism to fund dual 19 party relay services for Kansans who are speech or hearing 20 impaired; this funding mechanism shall be implemented by March 1, 21 1997; 22 23 (h) on or before January 1, 1997, establish, pursuant to section 9, the Kansas universal service fund, hereinafter referred 24 to as the KUSF, and make various determinations relating to the 25 26 implementation of such fund; 27 28 (i) authorize all telecommunications service providers to 29 provide internet access to specified parties under certain 30 conditions outlined in section 13 and report on the status of the implementation provisions to specified legislative committees; 31 32 33 (j) review the federal act and adopt additional standards

and guidelines as necessary for implementation of slamming

restrictions pursuant to section 14;

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(k) at least every 5 years after July 1, 1996, review and, to the extent necessary, modify the definition of **universal service,** and KUSF, taking into account advances in telecommunications and information rechnology and services;

- (1) on or before January 1, 1997, initiate and complete a proceeding to establish minimum quality of service standards which will be equally applicable to all local exchange carriers and telecommunications carriers in the state; any local exchange carrier or telecommunications carrier violating such standards shall, for each offense, forfeit and pay a penalty of not less than \$100, nor more than \$5,000. Violations of such standards shall be enforced in accordance with provisions of K.S.A. 66-177, and amendments thereto; and
- (m) On January 1, 2000, the commission shall prepare and submit a report to the legislature. The report shall include ana analysis of the manner in which the regulatory framework has served to protect consumers, safeguard universal service, ensure that consumers have reap the benefit of competition, maximize market forces and promote development of the telecommunications infrastructure throughout the state.
- New Section 4. (a) On or before September 1, 1996, the commission shall begin to authorize any requesting telecommunications carrier to provide local exchange or exchange access service, if the requesting telecommunications carrier has been granted a certificate of public convenience to transact utility business in the state.
- (b) A local exchange carrier shall be required to offer to allow reasonable resale of its retail telecommunications services and to sell unbundled local loop, switch and trunk facilities to telecommunications carriers, as required by the federal act and pursuant to negotiated agreements or a statement of terms and conditions generally available to telecommunications carriers.
 - (c) To encourage telecommunications carriers to build or

install telecommunications facilities, including, but not limited to, local loop and switching facilities in the state, and except as otherwise negotiated by a local exchange carrier telecommunications carrier, the prices for such unbundled facilities shall recover the actual costs, including an appropriate allocation of joint and common costs and a reasonable profit; the discount for resale of any existing retail telecommunications services provided by local exchange carriers shall not exceed 10% unless the commission finds that there is clear and convincing evidence that the avoided costs are greater than 10%; and the commission shall approve resale restrictions proposed by any local exchange carrier which prohibit resellers from purchasing retail telecommunications services offered by that local exchange carrier to one category of customers and reselling those retail services to a different category of customers, or from purchasing retail telecommunications services and aggregating the usage of multiple customers on those resold services, or any other reasonable limitation on resale to the extent permitted by the federal act.

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- (d) Except as provided in the federal act, in order for telecommunications carriers to provide local exchange service and exchange access service, local exchange carriers shall provide the means to interconnect their respective customers, including but not limited to, toll access, access to operator services, access to directory listings and assistance, and access to 911 service.
- (e) Telecommunications carriers, including, but not limited to, cable television companies that directly or indirectly through affiliated enterprises provide local exchange or exchange access service shall provide local exchange carriers corresponding interconnection, resale of their existing telecommunications services and unbundled access to their facilities on the same terms and conditions as are required of the local exchange carriers.
- (f) Customers shall be accorded number portability and local dialing parity in conformance with national standards to the extent economically and technically feasible. Terms and prices for interconnection, unbundled facilities and resale of existing retail

telecommunications services shall be negotiated in good faith between the parties, but upon the request of either party, the commission shall intervene and arbitrate open issues on an expedited basis if an agreement is not reached between the parties after 135 days of negotiation.

(g) The commission shall require, consistent with the terms of the federal act, that 1+ intraLATA dialing parity be provided by all local exchange carriers and telecommunications carriers coincidentally with the provision of in-region interLATA toll services in the state by local exchange carriers with more than 150,000 access lines or their affiliates.

New Section 5 (a) Pursuant to the federal act, the commission shall not require unbundling or resale of services for rural telephone companies unless there is a bona fide request for the service and the commission finds that the request is not unduly economically burdensome; is consistent with the protection of universal service and with the public interest, convenience and necessity; avoids a significant adverse impact on users of telecommunications services generally; and avoids imposing a requirement that is technically infeasible.

- (b) The commission shall not issue more than one certificate to provide local exchange or exchange access service in the service area of a rural telephone company until such time as the commission has completed a general investigation and adopted statewide guidelines in a final order regarding the application of the federal act to the certification of telecommunications carriers in service areas of rural telephone companies. As part of the general investigation, the commission shall hold at least two public hearings in different areas of the state served by rural telephone companies, seeking public comment on issues relating to the investigation. Such investigation shall be initiated on or before August 1, 1996, and shall include, but not be limited to:
- (1) technical feasibility of multiple providers of telecommunications service in service areas of the state served by rural telephone companies, including, but not limited to, technical

issues, such as: the additional equipment required to accommodate resale; interconnection; telephone number administration and

3 portability; and dialing parity;

- (2) economic burden on rural telephone companies, including, but not limited to economic burden issues, such as: costs necessary to meet the technical feasibility requirements; expense of studies to determine costs of unbundled facilities and services; and other administrative costs. (The economic burden analysis shall also consider the impact of resale on rural telephone company revenues and investment, including investments required pursuant to subsection (a) of section 6);
- (3) preservation and advancement of universal service including, universal service issues, such as: continued existence of a carrier of last resort able to serve every part of, and every customer in, the relevant service area; access for all customers to universal service at reasonable and affordable rates; the effect on the quality of telecommunications service available to all customers in such service area; and the effect on access to advanced telecommunications services for schools, health care providers, and public libraries.

(c) Using the findings of such investigation, the commission shall develop guidelines to serve as a basis for granting certificates to telecommunications carriers in service areas of rural telephone companies, placing the highest priority on preservation and enhancement of universal service. The commission shall provide preliminary findings no later than October 31, 1996, and shall issue a final order no later than December 31, 1996.

(d) After adoption of the guidelines, the commission may consider an application for a certificate to provide local exchange or exchange access service in the service area of a rural telephone company. The commission shall grant such application only upon finding that: (1) the application complies with commission

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guidelines for multiple providers in rural telephone company service areas; (2) the applicant meets the requirements in section 214 (e) (1) of the federal act for designation as an eligible telecommunications carrier for that area; (3) the applicant will provide service throughout the service area of the existing rural telephone company; (4) the applicant will meet and maintain quality of service standards established by the commission pursuant to subsection (1) of section 3; and (5) the approval of the application is consistent with the public interest, convenience, and necessity.

(e) Any restrictions established by the commission in this investigation for rural entry of competitors or for resale and unbundling of services shall not apply to any service area of a rural telephone company if such company, or an entity in which such company directly or indirectly owns an equity interest of 10% or more, provides local exchange or exchange access service, as authorized under section 4 and this section in any area of the state outside of its local exchange areas as approved by the commission on or before January 1, 1996, and outside of any area in which it is the successor to the local exchange carrier serving such area on or before January 1, 1996.

New Section 6. (a) Each local exchange carrier shall file a network infrastructure plan with the commission on or after January 1, 1997 and prior to January 1, 1998. Each plan, as a part of universal service protection, shall include schedules, which shall be approved by the commission, for deployment of the enhanced universal service capabilities defined pursuant to subsection (q) of section 2. Each plan shall demonstrate the capability of the local exchange carrier to comply on an ongoing basis with quality of service standards to be adopted by the commission no later than January 1, 1997.

(b) In order to protect universal service, facilitate the transition to competitive markets, and stimulate the

construction of an advanced telecommunications infrastructure, each local exchange carrier shall file a regulatory reform plan at the same time as it files the network infrastructure plan required in subsection (a) of this section. As part of its regulatory reform plan, a local exchange carrier may elect traditional rate of return regulation or price cap regulation. Regulatory reform plans shall also include:

(1) a commitment to provide existing and newly ordered point-to-point broadband services to any hospital as defined in K.S.A. 65-425, and amendments thereto, school accredited pursuant to K.S.A. 72-1101 et seq. and amendments thereto, public library or other state and local government facilities at discounted prices close to, but not below, long-run incremental cost; and

(2) a commitment to provide basic rate ISDN service at prices which are uniform throughout the carrier's service area and which are designed to stimulate the development of an extensive residential market. Local exchange carriers shall not be required to allow customers purchasing the foregoing services to resell those services to other categories of customers. The commission may reduce prices charged for services outlined in provisions (1) and (2) of this subsection, if the commitments of the local exchange carrier set forth in those provisions are not being kept.

(c) For regulatory reform plans in which price cap regulation has been elected, price cap plans shall have three baskets: Residential and single-line business, including touch-tone; switched access; and miscellaneous services.

(d) A price cap is a maximum price for all services taken as a whole in a given basket. After the initial three years of rate rebalancing, and except for any subsequent authorized rate rebalancing, no adjustment to an individual service price within the residential and single-line business service basket shall increase more than the consumer price index. Prices for individual

services and for services to individual customers may be reduced within a basket. An entire basket, if desired by the local exchange carrier, may be priced below the cap. No service shall be priced below long-run incremental cost which shall serve as a price floor. Access charges equal to those paid by telecommunications carriers to local exchange carriers shall be imputed as part of the price floor for toll services offered by such local exchange carriers on a total toll service basis. Any downward adjustment in the price of services within a price cap not otherwise reflected in existing tariff rates or rate charges shall be presumed lawful and shall become effective upon seven days notice, or such shorter time as the commission shall approve, if the tariff applicant has a good faith basis to believe the price reduction is necessary to meet the price offered by an alternate provider to the customer, or in the area for which the new price applies. Any other downward adjustment in rates or rate ranges for an individual service or for services to individual customers shall be effective upon 14 days notice, or such shorter time as the commission shall approve, and shall not be suspended for more than 90 days pending any final order of the commission.

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(e) The price cap for the residential and single-line business basket, including touch-tone, shall be established at the prices existing when the regulatory plan is filed. In the first three years of the plan, the price cap shall be adjusted annually by a rate rebalancing factor to offset the loss in revenues estimated for the following year due to reductions in both access charges and the imputed access portion of intraLATA toll charges provided by local exchange carriers, but shall not account for revenue reductions due to market share losses. The commission shall review and issue a final order within 60 days of any price cap adjustment filing and shall adjust prospectively the price cap to reflect any overestimate or underestimate of demand for the immediately preceding year. The rebalancing factor shall be applied to the basket as a whole and shall continue to be used as necessary for the commission to ensure that a revenue balance is

reached for any access and local price rebalancing under this section. Total increases in the monthly residence and single-line business rates shall be limited to \$1.50 per line in each of the first three years of the price cap plan, unless the commission authorizes a greater amount. Rate rebalancing may occur after the three-year rate rebalancing to correspond to adjustments made to interstate access rates. Any increases in the price cap which is the residential and single-line business basket for rate rebalancing in subsequent years shall be subject to the approval of the commission in accordance with subsection (f) of this section. In addition to any authorized rate rebalancing after the first three years of the price cap plan, the price cap which is the residential and single line business basket shall thereafter be adjusted annually based on the change in the consumer price index minus 1.5 percent. However, no increase shall be made to such price cap during the first three years of the price cap plan for any purpose other than for the purpose of rate rebalancing pursuant to this section.

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(f) Price caps for intrastate switched access shall be reduced over a three-year period with the objective of equalizing interstate and intrastate prices, as long as corresponding changes to local service price caps are made under subsection (e) of this section. After the initial three-year period, intrastate switched access prices shall be capped at the price of switched interstate access, as long as the commission authorizes corresponding changes to local service price caps under subsection (e) of this section, or recovery of any such additional amounts on a revenue neutral basis from the KUSF.

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(g) The price cap for the basket of all miscellaneous regulated services other than residential and single-line business including touch-tone, and switched access shall be adjusted annually based on the change in consumer price index minus 1.5 percent. Such services shall continue to be price regulated until

the affected local exchange carrier begins to offer 1+ intraLATA dialing parity or July 1, 1997, whichever occurs first. The commission may also price deregulate any individual service or service category upon a finding that the service or service category is nonessential for particular residential or business users or there is an alternate provider of the service. Changes in the price of services subject to this price cap shall be effective within seven days after a tariff is filed. Such filing shall include information demonstrating that the price cap for the entire basket will not be exceeded by the filing. Such a change shall be presumed lawful unless it is determined that the price cap for the entire basket has been exceeded.

- (h) In the case of any service which has been price deregulated, the commission shall impose price regulation for such service in a separate basket, upon showings to the commission that: the service is essential for particular residential or business users; there is no alternative source for the service; and the price of the service has risen more rapidly than the price of basic residential local service. The price cap for such basket shall be adjusted annually based on the change in consumer price index minus 1.5 percent.
- (i) The commission shall require that for all local exchange carriers all such price deregulated intraLATA toll services be geographically averaged statewide and not be priced below long-run incremental cost.

(j) Cost studies to determine price floors shall be performed as required by the commission in response to complaints. On or before January 1, 1997, local exchange carriers with more than 150,000 access lines in this state shall file with the commission long-run incremental cost studies for any of its existing services that the commission requested in its January 4, 1996 order in Docket No. 190,492-U.

(k) Any new service introduced after July 1, 1996 and

prior to July 1, 1997, shall be placed in the miscellaneous service basket for any local exchange carrier that elected price cap regulation as part of its regulatory plan. After July 1, 1997, new services shall be price deregulated but subject to reregulation as provided in subsection (h) of this section.

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(1) No audit, earnings review or rate case shall be performed with reference to the price cap plan and the initial prices filed as required herein.

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(m) Telecommunications carriers shall not be subject to price regulation, except that: Access charge reductions shall be passed through to consumers by reductions in basic intrastate toll prices; and basic toll prices shall remain geographically averaged statewide. As required under K.S.A. 66-131, and amendments thereto, and except as provided for in subsection (c) of section 5, telecommunications carriers that were not authorized to provide switched local exchange telecommunications services in this state as of July 1, 1996, including cable television operators who have not previously offered telecommunications services, must receive a certificate of convenience based upon a demonstration of technical, managerial and financial viability, and the ability to meet quality service standards established by the commission. Any telecommunications carrier or other entity seeking such certificate shall file a statement, which shall be subject to the commission's approval, specifying with particularity the areas in which it will offer service, the manner in which it will provide the service in such areas and whether it will serve both business customers and residential customers in such areas. Any structurally separate affiliate of a local exchange carrier that provides telecommunications services shall be subject to the same regulatory obligations and oversight as a telecommunications carrier, as long as the local exchange carrier's affiliate obtains access to any services or facilities from its affiliated local exchange carrier on the same terms and conditions as the local exchange carrier

makes those services and facilities available to other telecommunications carriers. The commission shall oversee telecommunications carriers to prevent fraud and other practices harmful to consumers and to ensure compliance with quality of service standards adopted for all local exchange carriers and telecommunications carriers in the state.

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New Section 7. On or before January 1, 1997, the commission shall establish the Kansas lifeline service fund, hereinafter referred to as the KLSF. The purpose of the KLSF shall be to promote the provision of universal service by local exchange carriers to persons with low-income or special needs. The KLSF shall be targeted to maintain affordable rates for basic local exchange service. The commission shall approve a means test to determine the eligibility of customers for such low-income assistance. The KLSF shall provide funds to offset any basic local exchange price increases that low income customers would otherwise incur pursuant to subsection (c) of section 8 or as a consequence of rate rebalancing pursuant to subsection (e) of section 6.

New Section 8. (a) A rural telephone company that has not elected price cap regulation pursuant to subsection (b) of section 6 shall restructure its switched and special access rates to bring the rates and rate structures into parity with its corresponding interstate rates and rate structures effective March 1, 1997, except that the rate for intrastate basic billing and collection service, excluding advertising inserts and uncollectables, shall not exceed \$.05 per message. Any net revenue increase that would otherwise occur for any rural telephone company as a result of this restructuring shall be reflected in an adjustment of the intrastate local switching rate below the interstate rate for any such company. To ensure continued parity of intrastate and interstate access rates, rural telephone companies shall file updated tariffs not later than every two years after March 1, 1997.

(b) All local exchange carriers and telecommunications

carriers providing long distance service in Kansas shall reduce their statewide average long distance rates to reflect the net reductions in access charges set forth in subsection (a) of this section; however, such carriers shall be allowed to increase long distance rates to reflect the KUSF and KLSF surcharge set forth in section 11.

(c) (1) Beginning March 1, 1997, rural telephone companies shall have the authority to increase annually their monthly basic local residential and business rates by an amount not to exceed \$1.50 until such monthly rates reach an amount equal to the statewide rural telephone company average rates for such services. The statewide rural telephone company average rates shall be the arithmetic mean of the lowest flat rate as of March 1, 1996 for local residential service and for local business service offered by each rural telephone company within the state. To the extent that a rural telephone company reaches such statewide average rates by March 1, 2000, the funding it receives from the KUSF shall not be affected;

(2) On March 1, 2000, an individual rural telephone company's funding shall be reduced by the difference between the revenue which would have been generated by the statewide rural telephone company average local business and residential rates multiplied by the respective number of residential and business access lines served by such company and the actual revenue from local business and residential rates for the individual rural telephone company;

(3) A rural telephone company which, after increasing local rates \$1.50 per line per month in each of three successive years following March 1, 1997, continues to have a local rate below the statewide rural telephone company average rate shall nevertheless continue to receive full KUSF funding as herein provided, as long as such rural telephone company continues to

increase such local rate by \$1.50 per month annually until the statewide rural telephone company average rate is achieved. If the statewide rural telephone company average rate is achieved through a final increase in local rates of less than \$1.50 per month, such rural telephone company shall likewise continue to receive full KUSF funding for the year in which such final increase is made.

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(d) The commission shall approve, upon not more than 120 days notice, any basic local exchange price increases that in the aggregate in any one year are \$1.50 or less per access line per month, that are proposed by any rural telephone company and that comply with the requirements of this section. Any such proposed price increases shall be presumed reasonable and not subject to commission investigation and review if the rural telephone company has followed the notice requirements set forth below. However, the commission shall initiate an investigation if more than 15% of the subscribers subject to the rate increase request investigation within 90 days of the date of distribution of the notice of the proposed change. Upon filing such an application for a rate increase, any rural telephone company seeking expedited approval of the proposed rate under this section shall send a notice to its subscribers by regular mail, which may be included with regular subscriber mailings. The notice shall include a schedule of the proposed local exchange rates, the effective date of the rates and a description of the procedures by which the subscribers can petition the commission to determine the reasonableness of the proposed rates.

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(e) The commission shall have the right to investigate and determine the reasonableness of an increase in local exchange rates and charges under subsection (d) of this section by any rural telephone company not subject to local exchange rate regulation within one year of the time local exchange rates or charges are increased. If the commission determines such rate or charge increases are unreasonable, the commission shall have the authority

to order a rate hearing and, after such hearing, shall have the authority to rescind all or any portion of the increases found to

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New Section 9. On or before January 1, 1997, the commission shall establish the Kansas universal service fund, hereinafter referred to as the KUSF:

- (a) Rural telephone company revenues lost as a result of the provisions of subsection (a) of section 8 shall be recovered on a revenue neutral basis from a newly established KUSF. The revenue neutral calculation shall be based upon the revenues for the 12 months prior to September 30, 1996, levelized for rate changes that are ordered by the commission prior to September 30, 1996.
- Any local exchange carrier that serves urban and high-cost rural areas shall receive support: (1) For the difference between its interstate and intrastate access rates to the extent as determined by the commission that full-rate restructuring provided in subsection (e) of section 6 does not occur or if the commission determines that in the course of such rate restructuring the local exchange carrier experiences any revenue shortfall; and (2) to serve the rural areas in its service territory if the commission, subject to all intervention capabilities of affected parties, as provided in the stipulation in Docket No. 127, 140-U (Phase IV) finds that the carrier's costs of providing local service in such areas, allocated in accordance with the federal jurisdictional separations procedures, which on the effective date of this act were set forth in 47 C.F.R. Part 36, as in effect at the time of the carrier's filing an application with the commission, and including the intrastate portion of the cost of the local loop, are not covered by its local rates after the restructuring provided in any order by the commission authorizing price cap regulation. Support provided under this subsection shall not adversely affect receipt by a rural telephone company of KUSF support.

(c) Effective June 1, 1997, any rural telephone company

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1 may request supplemental KUSF support in accordance with the 2 following procedures:

(1) A rural telephone company, whether or not eligible to initially receive KUSF support, may receive supplemental KUSF funding based upon the percentage increase in its access lines, as defined in the federal jurisdictional separations procedures, which on the effective date of this act were set forth in 47 C.F.R. Section 36.611 (a)(8), as in effect at the time of the company's filing an application with the commission, over the 12 months prior to its request. Such requests using simplified filing procedures shall be subject to an expedited review by the commission corresponding to the expedited review procedures, including all review, verification and intervention capabilities of affected parties, as provided in the stipulation in Docket No. 127, 140-U (Phase IV). Requests shall be deemed approved if a final order is not issued in 60 days.

- (2) After March 1, 1997, upon filing intrastate access tariffs to maintain the parity of intrastate access rates with interstate rates, rural telephone companies may file requests using simplified filing procedures with the commission for increased support from the KUSF to be provided on a revenue neutral basis. Such requests shall be subject to an expedited review by the commission corresponding to the expedited review procedures, including all review, verification and intervention capabilities of affected parties, as provided in the stipulation in Docket No. 127, 140-U (Phase IV). Requests shall be deemed approved if a final order is not issued in 60 days.
- (3) A rural telephone company that has not elected price cap regulation pursuant to any order of the commission authorizing price cap regulation may file a request using simplified filing procedures with the commission for supplemental funding necessary to recover: (A) Changes to intrastate access revenue requirements caused by mandatory changes in the jurisdictional separation procedures adopted by the federal

communications commission, as long as the request is filed within 12 months after the effective date of the change; and (B) changes to intrastate access revenue requirements that are calculated in accordance with jurisdictional separations procedures adopted by the federal communications commission and that arise from: (i) the provision of universal service capabilities; (ii) other infrastructure expenditures in response to facility or service requirements established by any legislative, regulatory or judicial authority; or (iii) natural disasters. In calculating such supplemental funding, the commission shall utilize the telephone company's authorized interstate rate of return, or its specific intrastate rate of return, whichever is greater. supplemental funding shall be incurred for purposes of providing service to and within the certificated territory as of January 1, 1996, of the rural telephone company, or its successor, eligible for such funding. Affected parties shall be allowed all review, verification and intervention capabilities in proceedings involving any request under this subsection. However, such requests shall be deemed approved if not acted upon within 120 days or if a final order is not issued within 180 days of the request filing.

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(4) Any additional KUSF funding other than as provided in paragraphs (1), (2), and (3) of subsection (c) of this section may be authorized in the discretion of the commission but must be based upon a general rate case filing.

New Section 10. (a) Local exchange carriers that provided switched local exchange services in the state prior to January 1, 1996, or their successors, shall serve as the carrier of last resort in their exchanges and shall be eligible to receive KUSF and KLSF funding. However, with respect to the Hill City exchange area in which multiple carriers were certified prior to January 1, 1996, the commission's determination, subject to court appeals, of which authorized carrier shall serve as carrier of last resort also shall govern which carrier is eligible for KUSF support. The local exchange carrier serving as the carrier of last resort shall remain the carrier of last resort and shall be

entitled to recover the costs of serving as carrier of last resort until relieved of that obligation as set forth in subsection (b) of this section.

- (b) A local exchange carrier shall be relieved of its carrier of last resort obligations for its operating area and no telecommunications or local exchange carrier shall receive KUSF support for that operating area if the commission determines that:

 (1) The revenue neutral rate restructuring that brings intrastate access rates into parity with interstate access rates has occurred;

 (2) one or more telecommunications carriers within that operating area offer universal service to all inhabitants of that operating area at least equal to and comparable to the service provided by the local exchange carrier that has served as the carrier of last resort; and (3) all telecommunications providers, including all local exchange carriers, in that operating area are subject to the same quality of service standards and have the same flexibility to establish and change the price and other terms and conditions of service.
- (c) Beginning March 1, 1997, the amount of KUSF and KLSF funds owed to each local exchange carrier in the state, based upon the revenue requirements assigned to the funds for that local exchange carrier or that local exchange carrier's number of qualifying lifeline subscribers, shall be allocated by the fund administrator in equal monthly installments.

New Section 11. (a) The aggregate funds and each provider's funding obligation required for the KUSF and the KLSF shall be recovered through a per-minute surcharge assessed to the provider on all intrastate retail billed toll minutes, including 800 service billed minutes of telecommunications carriers, local exchange carriers and wireless communications service providers. The per-minute surcharge shall be collected from customers using any such service provided by any telecommunications carrier, local exchange carrier or wireless telecommunications provider operating within the state. For purposes of this section, a call originated and terminated on wireline facilities is an intrastate toll call

subject to this subsection if it terminates outside of the base rate or extended local service area of the local exchange carrier serving the area where the call originates. For purposes of this section, an intrastate retail billed toll minute for wireless communications service providers shall mean each intrastate minute billed by a wireless communications provider for wireless originated calls that are terminated outside of the terminating local exchange carrier's or telecommunications carrier's base rate or extended service area.

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- (b) Minutes for calls that would be classified as toll minutes on the effective date of this act shall be considered toll minutes irrespective of any future service repricing or reclassification. Where minutes cannot be measured, surrogates approved by the commission shall be used.
- On March 1, 1997, and annually thereafter, the administrator selected pursuant to subsection (a) of section 12 shall calculate the KUSF and KLSF surcharge needed to recover all administrative funding and costs and shall notify telecommunications carriers, local exchange carriers and wireless communications service providers in the state of the per-minute surcharge. All such providers shall be authorized to collect the surcharge. In the event that the amount collected is more or less than the amount necessary to cover funding and administrative costs, the surcharge in the following year shall be adjusted to ensure that each contributor and recipient pays and receives its appropriate share, including any amounts any recipient was entitled to, but did not receive, in the prior year.

New Section 12. (a) The commission shall utilize a competitive bidding process to select a neutral, competent and bonded third party to administer the KUSF and KLSF.

(b) The administrator shall be responsible for: (1) Collecting and auditing all relevant information from all providers receiving funds from or providing funds to the KUSF or KLSF, including any providers not subject to the commission's

jurisdiction; (2) calculating the surcharge that shall be imposed on long distance retail billed minutes of use to generate the funds required by the KUSF and KLSF; (3) collecting all moneys due to the KUSF and KLSF from all long distance providers in the state, including providers not subject to the commission's jurisdiction; and (4) distributing amounts on a monthly basis due to local exchange carriers receiving KUSF or KLSF funding.

(c) Any information made available or received by the administrator from providers receiving funds from or providing funds to the KUSF or KLSF, including providers not subject to the commission's jurisdiction, 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 local exchange carrier, telecommunications carrier, or wireless provider in the district court in the county of the registered office of such carrier or provider or, if such carrier or provider does not have a registered office in the state, such an action may be maintained in the county where such carrier's or provider's principal office is located. If such carrier 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 or provider provides service.

(e) The KUSF and KLSF administrator shall be responsible to ensure that funds do not fall below the level necessary to pay all amounts collectively owed to all local exchange 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.

New Section 13. (a) As used in this section, "internet

means the international computer network of both federal and non-federal interoperable packet switched data networks. As used in this section, **telecommunications service providers** mean local exchange carriers and interexchange carriers.

(b) The commission shall authorize all telecommunications service providers to provide residential customers, educational institutions and public libraries in areas of the state that do not have toll-free access to the Kansas City, Wichita or Topeka metropolitan areas, dial-up access to one internet provider within the calling customer's LATA for a flat monthly fee.

(c) The dial-up access provided pursuant to this section shall support at least 28.8 kilobit per-second service to all public libraries, public education institutions including unified school districts, area vocational schools, area vocational-technical schools, community colleges, the municipal university, and state educational institutions, private, nonprofit elementary and secondary schools and accredited, independent institutions of higher education requesting service after July 1, 1999. The dial-up access provided to all other customers shall support at least 14.4 kilobit per-second service to all customers requesting service after July 1, 1999.

(d) Customers requesting service pursuant to the act may request either off peak or 24-hour service. (1) For off-peak users, the flat monthly fee shall apply to access between the hours of 5 p.m. and 7:59 a.m. weekdays and all hours on weekends and federal holidays. The flat monthly fee shall not exceed \$15 perline per-month. (2) For customers who subscribe to 24-hour service, the flat monthly fee for unlimited use shall not exceed \$30 perline per-month.

(e) Additional dial-up access to internet providers

within the calling customer's LATA may be added for an additional flat fee as described in subsection (d) of this section.

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(f) The retail prices established in this section shall apply notwithstanding the prices telecommunications service providers charge, with the approval of the commission or otherwise, for wholesale telecommunications services that may be used to provide similar services.

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(g) Telecommunications service providers providing dialup access services pursuant to this section shall not be required to permit resale of those services to other classes of customers, to allow customers to use the services for other purposes, or to allow the aggregation of usage by authorized customers.

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(h) All internet providers doing business in the state shall register with the commission. Such registration shall include the internet provider's name, address, and access line numbers. The commission shall ensure that the registration is updated on a regular basis.

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(i) During the 1999 session of the Kansas legislature, the commission shall transmit a report to the chairperson, vicechairperson and ranking minority member of the house standing committee on energy and natural resources, the senate standing committee on transportation and utilities and the joint committee on computers and telecommunications concerning implementation of this section. The report shall include recommendations for revisions in this section necessitated by technological innovation or market changes in the telecommunications industry. The report may also include an expiration date for this section.

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New Section 14. (a) No local exchange carrier or telecommunications carrier shall honor a request by any person

other than its customer to change the provider of intrastate long distance or local exchange service to such customer in the state, except: (1) Where the request is placed by a local or long distance company that has received a letter of agency containing clear and conspicuous disclosure of such change signed by the customer authorizing the change; (2) where the customer affected by the change initiated the contact with the local or long distance company in order to request the change; (3) where the customer affected by the change calls a toll-free number to confirm the request for change made in response to a contact initiated by the local exchange or long distance company requesting the change; or (4) where the commission otherwise expressly authorizes.

(b) The requisite documentation at a minimum shall identify a single designated carrier, shall be separate or severable from any sweepstakes, contest or similar promotional program, shall contain the telephone number of the account, and shall be signed by the customer responsible for paying charges on the account. In the event that a local exchange carrier or telecommunications carrier changes the primary carrier for any customer based upon representations that the change was authorized by the customer in writing or by a customer initiated contact, which is later disputed by the customer who seeks to be switched back to its original carrier and is not verified by the carrier requesting the change, the intrastate long distance or local exchange carrier requesting the change shall be liable to the customer for any amount collected from the customer in excess of what the prior provider would have charged, shall be liable to the local exchange carrier or telecommunications carrier for the costs of making and reversing the change, shall be liable for a fine of not less than \$250 per occurrence and shall be liable for any other fines, penalties or damages provided by law.

Section 15. K.S.A. 1995 Supp. 75-4709 is hereby amended to read as follows: 75-4709. (a) The secretary of administration shall make provision provide for and coordinate all

telecommunications services for all divisions, departments and agencies of the state pursuant to policies established by the Kansas information resources council. The secretary of administration shall have the authority to control the acquisition, retention and use of all telecommunications services for all divisions, departments and agencies of the state, and to develop and review plans and specifications for telecommunications services throughout the state.

(b) The secretary of administration, when feasible, may extend enter into agreements with any entity defined in this subsection extending to such entity the use of state intercity telecommunications facilities and services under the control of the secretary to private, nonprofit corporations designated by the governor pursuant to federal law to perform functions within the state as provided by federal law or to any governmental units, and may enter into agreements with such private, nonprofit corporations or governmental units for provision of such service.

As used in this subsection, an "entity" means:

- (1) Any governmental unit, including any state agency, taxing subdivision of the state or municipality; or
- (2) any hospital or nonprofit corporation which the secretary determines to be performing any state function on an ongoing basis through agreement or otherwise, or any function which will assist a governmental unit in attaining an objective or goal bearing a valid relationship to powers and functions of such unit.

(b)(c) Every record made, maintained or kept by the secretary of administration or the division of information systems and communications, or any agency or instrumentality thereof, which relates to the acquisition, retention or use of telecommunications services provided to any division, department or agency of the state, state officer or governmental unit and which pertains to individually identifiable individuals using such telecommunication services shall constitute for purposes of the open records act a record of the division, department or agency of the state, state officer or governmental unit to which such records relate and. The

- official custodian of such records for the purposes of the open records act shall be the official custodian of the records of such division, department or a record.
- division, department or agency of the state, state officer or
- 4 governmental unit.
- 5 Sec. 16 K.S.A. 66-1,187 and K.S.A. 1995 Supp. 75-4709 are 6 hereby repealed.
- Sec. 17. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its publication in the statute book.

COMPARISON OF KEY PROVISIONS OF KANSAS TSPC PROPOSAL AND HB2728

TSPC PROPOSAL	HB2728
1. Quality of Service Standards-Not Addressed	Quality of Service Standards-Required
2. Internet Access-Not Addressed	Internet Access-Permitted
3. Slamming Safeguards-Not Addressed	Slamming Safeguards-Required
4. Universal Service Plan-Undecided	Universal Service Plan-Outlined
5. Facilities Based Competition Authorized Immediately	Encourages facilities based through pricing
No Resale of Basic Service Until InterLATA Relief	Resale permitted
6. Not Required to Unbundle and Resell Loop, Trunk and Switch Before Interexchange Relief	Must unbundle as Required by Federal Law
7. Rural Market Entry Provisions -Not Addressed	Regulatory Proceeding Required to Establish Procedures for Rural Entry
8. Simultaneous 1+ LD Competition	Same
 9. Infrastructure Plan -Interoffice Fiber -ISDN -SS7 Capability -Broadband to Schools, Hospitals and Government 	Same Same Same
10.Regulatory Reform Plan -Basic Service Price Caps -Discret./Comp. Service Price Deregulation -State Toll Access Prices Linked to Interstate -Rate Rebalancing -Individual Case Based Pricing -Toll-Imputation of Access -Toll-Statewide Average Rates	Same Price Deregulation Delayed Same Same Same Same Same
11.Cost Studies-LRIC	Same
12.No price regulation of other local providers	Same
13.Access reductions to be passed through in toll rates	Same

House sellcomm. Telecomm. 3-11-1996 Attachment 2