
KANSAS OFFICE *of*
REVISOR *of* STATUTES
LEGISLATURE *of* THE STATE *of* KANSAS
Legislative Attorneys transforming ideas into legislation.

300 SW TENTH AVENUE ■ SUITE 24-E ■ TOPEKA, KS 66612 ■ (785) 296-2321

MEMORANDUM

To: Senate Committee on Utilities
From: Office of Revisor of Statutes
Date: March 6, 2025
Subject: House Bill 2107 – As Amended by House Committee

House Bill 2107 relates to electric public utilities and unplanned wildfires. HB 2107 would enact a new statute to establish a statute of limitations for wildfire related claims against a public utility, authorize recovery of economic losses for damage to property when fire event was caused by a public utility's conduct and limit the award of punitive damages relating to any such claim. HB 2107 would also require the Kansas corporation commission to convene a workshop to assess wildfire risks and utility mitigation efforts.

Section 1 – Fire Claims

Section 1(b) of HB 2107 would establish a two-year statute of limitations for any fire claim brought against an electric public utility. Such statute of limitations would begin to run on the date that a plaintiff first suffers damage from a fire event. A 'fire claim' would be defined as any civil claim, whether based on negligence, nuisance, trespass or any other claim for relief, brought against an electric public utility with respect to an unplanned fire event alleged to be caused by the utility.

Section 1(c) of HB 2107 would authorize a plaintiff to recover economic loss to compensate for damage to property when the plaintiff proves by a preponderance of the evidence that the plaintiff's loss was due to a fire event caused by an electric public utility.

Section 1(d) of HB 2107 would establish a punitive damages cap in the amount of \$5,000,000 for any fire claim.

Section 2 – Workshop to Assess Wildfire Risks and Utility Mitigation Efforts

Section 2 would require the state corporation commission to convene a workshop to assess wildfire risk and utility mitigation efforts on or before July 31, 2026. Such workshop shall provide a forum for the presentation and discussion of: General wildfire risks in the state, utility readiness and strategies to mitigate such risks, and cost recovery treatment for mitigation costs incurred by public utilities.

If enacted, HB 2107 would take effect on July 1, 2025, upon publication in the statute book.