

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON UTILITIES.

The meeting was called to order by Vice-Chairman Carl Krehbiel at 9:04 a.m. on January 27, 2003 in Room 526-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except: Representative Carl Holmes

Committee staff present: Mary Galligan, Legislative Research  
Dennis Hodgins, Legislative Research  
Mary Torrence, Revisor of Statutes  
Jo Cook, Administrative Assistant

Conferees appearing before the committee: Janet Buchanan, Kansas Corporation Commission  
Mike Lura, Citizens' Utility Ratepayer Board

Others attending: See Attached List

**HB 2019 - State Corporation Commission prohibited from regulating high speed Internet access/  
broadband service**

Vice Chairman Krehbiel welcomed Janet Buchanan, Chief of Telecommunications for the Kansas Corporation Commission, to the committee. Ms. Buchanan testified, on behalf of the Commission, in opposition to **HB 2019 (Attachment 1)**. She stated the Commission believes that intra-modal competition for DSL offerings is beneficial for Kansas, but the language of the bill is overly broad and threatens the Commission's ability to regulate the provision of voice service. Additionally, Ms. Buchanan distributed a memorandum with background information on Docket Number 01-GIMT-032-GIT Order 19: Decision on Digital Subscriber Line Services and Line Splitting (Attachment 2). The memorandum included detail regarding the decision pursuant to the order.

Mike Lura, telecommunications consultant for the Citizens' Utility Ratepayers Board, appeared in opposition to **HB 2019 (Attachment 3)**. Mr. Lura explained that the bill provides no commitment to deploy broadband services, no mention of rate levels that may be set, and no assurance that Kansas ratepayers will be any better off with this bill. He stated that the bill seeks to end any regulation by the KCC to a provider of high speed internet access in the provider's provision of such service, which would eliminate all pricing constraints, including below cost pricing.

Ms. Buchanan and Mr. Lura responded to questions from the committee.

The meeting adjourned at 10:41 a.m.

The next meeting will be Tuesday, January 28, 2003 at 9:00 a.m.