

Approved: 2-13-98  
Date

MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson David Corbin at 8:00 a.m. on February 11, 1998 in Room 254-E of the Capitol.

All members were present except: Senator Morris, Senator Pugh and Senator Schraad

Committee staff present: Raney Gilliland, Legislative Research Department  
Mary Ann Torrence, Revisor of Statutes  
Lila McClafin, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:  
Clark Duffy, Kansas Petroleum Council  
Bob Totten, Public Affairs Director, Kansas Contractors Association  
Tom Shimon, Kansas One Call

Others attending: See attached list

Chairperson David Corbin called on Clark Duffy. Mr. Duffy requested a resolution be introduced urging the United States government not to sign or ratify the Kyoto Protocol unless it includes a specific commitment for developing countries to mitigate greenhouse gas emissions. A motion was made by Senator Karr with a second from Senator Tyson to have the resolution introduced. The motion carried.

Chairperson David Corbin opened the hearing on **SB 569 Prevention of damage to rural water district underground lines and facilities.** Chairperson Corbin said he had asked for introduction of the bill, as he thought it would be a good idea for rural water districts to belong to the dig safe program. Chairperson Corbin called on Bob Totten.

Bob Totten supported the bill to include the rural water districts in the Call Before You Dig Program. He said they would encourage all utilities to be part of the program since it provides efficiency and safety for all citizens (Attachment 1).

Tom Shimon, Kansas One Call, responded to several questions about Kansas One Call.

The hearing was closed on **SB 569.**

Committee discussion followed on whether the hearing on **HCR 5030** should be closed. The consensus of the committee was to be prepared for a closed hearing on Friday should the committee decide it was necessary.

The meeting adjourned at 8:25 a.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for February 12, 1998.



**TESTIMONY BY  
THE KANSAS CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION  
ON SENATE BILL 569  
BEFORE THE SENATE ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCE COMMITTEE**

**February 11, 1998**

**Mr. Chairman and members of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, thank you for the opportunity to appear before you today to provide input on Senate Bill 569.**

**I am Bob Totten, Public Affairs Director for the Kansas Contractors Association. Our association represents over 410 heavy, highway, utility and municipal utility contractor and associate members in the Kansas construction industry.**

**This morning, I want to tell you we support SB 569 which would add rural water districts to the Call Before You Dig Program. We have supported the Underground Utility Damage Prevention Act since its inception several years ago and have supported both the statewide program and the ideas nationally. We encourage all utilities to be part of the program since it provides efficiency and safety for our citizens.**

**As a contractor or excavator, it is important for us to know exactly where all the lines are so that we can do our job without disrupting service to anyone else. In the present program, there is sufficient time to locate lines and still get our contractors out to the jobsite to conduct the excavation needed for a construction project.**

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**To my knowledge this has been a very good program for the utilities and the contractors involved. By calling one number, a contractor or owner can have all the utilities marked prior to the construction being conducted. We are assured everyone is notified under this program and our contractors can do their jobs.**

**In our view, rural water districts are just part of the system and should be included in the Utility Prevention Act. It would be unfortunate if a contractor accidentally broke a rural water line, and a house located nearby became consumed in fire due to insufficient water supplies and the poor marking or non-existent marking of where certain lines were located.**

**As I understand it, twenty-eight rural water districts are part of the One Call System but not all of them, and that can present problems when you are unsure who to contact for marking of a line.**

**We urge you to approve the language in Senate 569 and would appreciate your support for the measure. I will be glad to answer your questions if I can.**