

SESSION OF 2007

**CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT BRIEF
HOUSE BILL NO. 2034**

As Agreed to March 20, 2007

Brief*

HB 2034 would extend the sunset provision of the law that authorizes the Kansas Corporation Commission (KCC) to allow electric and gas utilities to recover from their customers prudent expenditures for security measures. The current statute was set to expire on July 1, 2007. The new sunset date would be July 1, 2011.

Conference Committee Action

The Conference Committee changed the sunset date from 2009, as passed by the Senate, to 2011.

Background

The bill was introduced by the House Committee on Energy and Utilities. At the House Committee hearing on the bill, the representative of Kansas City Power and Light Company, Westar, and KEPCo expressed support for the bill. No opponents of the bill presented testimony at the Committee hearing.

The statute that would be amended by the bill was enacted in 2002 with a sunset date of July 1, 2004. The 2004 Legislature amended the statute to set the current 2007 sunset date.

*Conference committee report briefs are prepared by the Legislative Research Department and do not express legislative intent. No summary is prepared when the report is an agreement to disagree. Conference committee report briefs may be accessed on the Internet at <http://www.kslegislature.org/klrd>

The House-passed version of the bill would have repealed the sunset. The Senate Committee on Utilities amended the bill to extend the sunset date to July 1, 2009 rather than to eliminate the sunset provision.

In its fiscal note on the bill, the Division of the Budget stated that removal of the sunset would result in Kansas customers continuing to pay public utility security costs as part of electric and natural gas bills. The fiscal note states that the KCC cites no fiscal effect on agency operations as a result of enactment of the bill.

utility security costs