



February 9, 2026

The Honorable Leo Delperdang, Chairperson
House Committee on Energy, Utilities and Telecommunications
300 SW 10th Avenue, Room 582-N
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Representative Delperdang:

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for HB 2483 by House Committee on Energy, Utilities and Telecommunications

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning HB 2483 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

HB 2483 would establish the Transparency and Reform of Utility Expenditures Act. The bill would add several conditions to the Kansas Corporation Commission (KCC) for regulation of transmission projects in Kansas and form regional transmission organizations. The bill would require the KCC to prepare and submit a report to the Legislature each January 31 beginning January 31, 2027. The report would include a description of each project recommended for construction by a regional transmission organization, the original estimated cost, the final cost, the difference between the original estimated cost and the final cost, a statement of whether the KCC would support the project with a description of benefits and rate impacts, efforts undertaken or that KCC would undertake to moderate costs to the lowest reasonable amount not to exceed 150.0 percent of the average annual transmission-related costs incurred for projects directed by the regional transmission organization over the immediately preceding ten years as adjusted for inflation, and an overview of KCC's determination and established plan.

The bill would require the KCC to provide weekly notices and make public postings about meetings with utility personnel on matters pertaining to electric rates. The bill would prohibit any public utility from participating in or permitting transmission line projects imposing a negative benefit to Kansas or if the line provides at least twice the benefit to another state. The bill would require the construction of certain transmission lines that are directed by a regional transmission organization to be subject to competitive bidding. The bill would authorize sales of energy and energy services pursuant to power purchase agreements and energy storage service agreements, exempting such sales from the retail electric suppliers act and public utility regulation. The bill

would prohibit municipalities from imposing restrictions on the construction and operation of nuclear energy facilities.

HB 2483 would prohibit KCC staff from being employed by a public utility within one year following the date that such person ceased to hold such position. The bill would define certain terms and require an electric utility proposing the construction of a high-impact electric transmission line to obtain Legislative approval prior to construction. The bill would require written notice to the Legislature within 30 days following the issuance of a siting permit by the KCC.

The bill would add to certain requirements of the Consumer Council and require members appointed to the Citizens' Utility Ratepayer Board (CURB) to be subject to Senate confirmation. The bill would limit membership of the CURB from the same political party to not more than three members. The bill would authorize the Consumer Council of the CURB to represent the interests of residential and small commercial ratepayers before the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and regional transmission organizations.

The bill would require the KCC, on or after July 1, 2026, to designate a representative to represent the interests of Kansas and bring any matter that may lead to an increase in electric rates for retail ratepayers and the rationale on whether and why they support the matter or not to the Senate Committee on Utilities and the House Committee on Energy, Utilities and Telecommunications, or any successor committees.

The bill would modify the transmission delivery charge assessed by electric public utilities to be only for transmission-related expenditures and require changes to receive approval through the KCC. The bill would require the KCC to provide notice to certain legislative committees of any changes at a regional transmission organization level regarding a vote on actions that may lead to increased electric rates in Kansas.

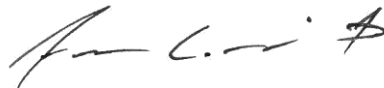
Estimated State Fiscal Effect			
	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028
Expenditures			
State General Fund	--	--	--
Fee Fund(s)	\$100,000	\$150,000	\$150,000
Federal Fund	--	--	--
Total Expenditures	\$100,000	\$150,000	\$150,000
Revenues			
State General Fund	--	--	--
Fee Fund(s)	--	\$50,000	\$50,000
Federal Fund	--	--	--
Total Revenues	--	\$50,000	\$50,000
FTE Positions	1.00	1.00	1.00

The KCC indicates that the enactment of the bill would increase expenditures by \$100,000 and require an additional 1.00 FTE position in FY 2026, FY 2027, and FY 2028 for salary and benefits for utility analysis and compliance review. Additional costs that cannot be quantified at this time would be the provisions on which KCC staff would be prohibited from working for a public utility potentially causing some employees to consider leaving the KCC before the effective date of the bill if passed, if they feel the provision could limit future employment opportunities. The provision could also limit the agency's ability to hire qualified staff and could increase training costs to get entry level staff up to the level of departing staff.

The CURB indicates that the enactment of the bill would increase revenues and expenditures by \$50,000 in FY 2027 and FY 2028. The agency is fee funded through assessments to all jurisdictional utilities based on expenditures incurred working on dockets. The agency would assess costs associated with additional work to all utilities and generate additional revenue equal to the expenditures. Agency expenditure increases would be for additional costs related to hiring consultants and utilizing staff for additional duties. The bill would authorize CURB to participate in federal and regional entities that regulate utilities beyond the state of Kansas. Given the complex and wide-ranging nature of such work, a significant amount of staff time would be dedicated to these roles alone. It is unclear whether such work would be done with outside consultants or in-house staff, but it would likely increase costs for the agency. The bill would require the Commission to treat what is currently an annual audit filing as another item in a general rate case. However, if changes to the charges are more frequent than normal, it could result in additional rate case filings creating long-term expenditure and revenue increases to account for the additional work. Although it would be considered in the normal course of a rate case, CURB typically must retain outside consultants to respond to those issues. If HB 2483 adds to the agency's workload so that outside consultants are needed through increased rate case filings, that could add additional costs to CURB's budget. However, a precise fiscal effect cannot be estimated. Any fiscal effect associated with HB 2483 is not reflected in *The FY 2027 Governor's Budget Report*.

The League of Kansas Municipalities indicates that the enactment of the bill could increase the expenditures of cities; however, a precise amount is not available. The Kansas Association of Counties indicates that the enactment of the bill would not have a direct fiscal effect on the revenues or expenditures of counties.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Adam C. Proffitt", followed by a stylized flourish.

Adam C. Proffitt
Director of the Budget

cc: Lynn Retz, Kansas Corporation Commission
Shonda Rabb, Citizens Utility Ratepayer Board
Jay Hall, Kansas Association of Counties
Wendi Stark, League of Kansas Municipalities