

Approved: February 24, 2004  
Date

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON UTILITIES.

The meeting was called to order by Vice-Chairman Carl Krehbiel at 9:05 a.m. on February 17, 2004 in Room 231-N of the Capitol.

All members were present except: Representative Eric Carter  
Representative Carl Holmes  
Representative William Kassebaum  
Representative Cindy Neighbor  
Representative Tom Sloan  
Representative Jim Ward

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

Conferees appearing before the committee: Deb Miller, Kansas Department of Transportation  
Ken Justice, Kansas Highway Patrol

Others attending: See Attached List

**SCR 1616 - Concurrent Resolution supporting KDOT's review of radio communication policies, objectives and plan**

Vice-Chairman Krehbiel opened the hearing on **SCR 1616** and welcomed Deb Miller, Secretary of the Kansas Department of Transportation (Attachment 1). Secretary Miller told the committee that KDOT has proposed an open policy for its 800 MHz communication system in an attempt to better serve the needs of Kansans. She stated that KDOT was truly appreciative of the support shown by the committee, as well as others, as the investigation on how best to use the infrastructure to support public safety. Secretary Miller responded to questions from the committee.

Captain Ken Justice, Kansas Highway Patrol, appeared on behalf of Colonel William Seck, in support of **SCR 1616** (Attachment 2). Captain Justice explained that the Resolution addressed one of the vital components of the overall homeland security system. The Resolution also addresses interoperability between various public safety agencies. Attached to Captain Justice's testimony were letters of support from several public safety associations. Captain Justice responded to questions from the committee.

Additionally, Ed Geer and Jaci Vogel, both with KDOT, responded to questions from the committee.

Vice-Chairman Krehbiel closed the hearing on **SCR 1616** and opened the floor for debate.

Representative Dillmore moved to recommend SCR 1616 favorable for adoption. Representative Svaty seconded the motion. The motion passed. Representative Showalter will carry the Resolution.

The meeting adjourned at 9:25 a.m.

The next meeting will be Wednesday, February 18, 2004.