

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE UTILITIES COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Vice-Chairman Carl Krehbiel at 9:00 A.M. on January 30, 2006 in Room 231-N of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Carl Holmes- excused
Tom Sloan- excused
Vaughn Flora- excused

Committee staff present:

Mary Galligan, Kansas Legislative Research
Dennis Hodgins, Kansas Legislative Research
Mary Torrence, Revisor's Office
Heather Klaasen, Research Intern
Renaе Hansen, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Representative Frank Miller
Ed Jaskinia, TALK
Rhonda Franks, Scranton, KS
Kimberly Winn, League of Kansas Municipalities
Jeff Bridges, City of Andover
Gary Hanson, Kansas Rural Water
Dennis Schwartz, Kansas Rural Water

Others attending:

See attached list.

Hearing on:

HB 2592 **Liens for utility services provided by municipally owned or operated utility.**

Proponents:

Representative Frank Miller presented testimony (Attachment 1), in favor of **HB 2592**. He explained that legislation concerning this issue has appeared before the house and senate in years past. Additionally he gave a brief summary of what **HB 2592** does for local governmental entities providing utility services.

Ed Jaskinia, The Associated Landlords of Kansas (TALK), (Attachment 2), offered comments on **HB 2592** stating how it would help landlords keep their utility services on.

Rhonda Franks, Scranton, Kansas, (Attachment 3), offered testimony stating how **HB 2592** would keep local cities from passing "home rule" laws that allows them to opt out of state laws.

Written testimony was received from Ried Copeland, (Attachment 4), in favor of **HB 2592**.

Opponents:

Kimberly Winn, League of Kansas Municipalities, (Attachment 5), presented testimony in opposition to **HB 2592** stating how the bill would take the equity out of utilities collection for municipalities.

Representing the City of Andover, Jeff Bridges, City Administrator, (Attachment 6), presented testimony including a map, explaining why the City of Andover was not in favor of **HB 2592**.

Gary Hanson, General Council, Kansas Rural Water Association, (Attachment 7), offered testimony for **HB 2592** asking that the rural water districts be left out of the legislation.

CONTINUATION SHEET

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Dennis Schwartz, President, Kansas Rural Water Association, (Attachment 8), gave testimony explaining why statutorily the rural water districts should be left out of **HB 2592**.

Questions were asked and comments made by Representatives: Jason Watkins, Don Myers, Peggy Mast, Robert Olson, Lynne Oharah, Mitch Holmes, Melody Miller, Richard Proehl, Virginia Beamer, Forrest Knox, Tom Hawk, Judy Morrison and Carl Krehbiel.

Irvine Hamm of Sedane Kansas was offered an opportunity to speak to HB 2592. He offered comments in favor of the bill from the viewpoint of a landlord.

Hearing on HB 2595 was closed.

The next House Utilities meeting is scheduled for January 31, 2006.

Meeting adjourned at 10:41 A.M.