

Citizens' Utility Ratepayer Board

Board Members:

Ellen K. Janoski, Chair
Bob Hall, Vice-Chair
James L. Mullin II, Member
Bob Kovar, Member
Henry Hungerbeeler, Member



State of Kansas

Jeff Colyer, M.D., Governor

David W. Nickel, Consumer Counsel
1500 S.W. Arrowhead Road
Topeka, Kansas 66604-4027
Phone: (785) 271-3200
<http://curb.kansas.gov>

February 16, 2018
SB 323 Testimony
Citizens' Utility Ratepayer Board
Testimony in Support (Written Only)
Before the House Energy, Utilities and Telecommunications Committee

The Citizens' Utility Ratepayer Board (CURB) supports Substitute for Senate Bill No. 323 (SB 323). As an independent state agency created in 1989, CURB represents residential and small commercial ratepayers in utility cases filed with the Kansas Corporation Commission (KCC), Kansas courts and the Kansas legislature. CURB believes that SB 323 is a reasonable solution to certain problems identified by various parties concerning regulation of electricity in Kansas.

More importantly, CURB testifies in support of this legislation because it involved a collaborative process between several stakeholders. In fact, stakeholders actively sought the input of CURB and the KCC and the parties were open to solve issues identified by these state agencies. From CURB's perspective, it is important to consider the issues perceived by residential and small commercial ratepayers in utility regulatory matters. Moreover, finding a collaborative solution to the many complex issues involved in utility regulation is integral to good legislation. CURB would be remiss not to praise efforts of stakeholders when they collaborate and find a mutually agreeable solution concerning legislation.

CURB will not detail the elements of SB 323 or discuss how it is in the public interest, as other parties will testify in these respects. It suffices to say that CURB believes that SB 323 posits a reasonable solution to certain regulatory issues, developed through mutual agreement and support among stakeholders. CURB recommends that the House Energy, Utilities and Telecommunications Committee pass SB 323 as it stands before the Committee.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on SB 323.