

Energy, Utilities and Telecom committee:

For the record,

One of my favorite phrases in the legislature is “your word is all you really have here.” We serve in an arena where trust and integrity are the things that allow us to work together and get things done. I take that seriously.

I allowed HB 2273 to have a hearing and to be worked because I believe it is part of our job to consider ideas, even ones we might disagree about. In this case there were Kansans who had concerns about this issue and I believed their concerns deserved a hearing.

Unfortunately, there were some who have attempted to use that decision to question my credibility and try to convince others that HB 2273 was “my bill” introduced to serve some self-interest on my part. That is false. It is not my bill and never was. This bill was not drafted at my request and it was not introduced to affect my property or gain any sort of advantage. Any comment, email, or implication to the contrary is wrong.

We may disagree on the merits of a bill, but it is not proper to make allegations damaging to someone’s reputation because of those disagreements.

-Chairman Siewert