

FISCAL NOTE

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Bill/Resolution No.: House Bill 1473 Amendment to: _____

Requested by Legislative Council Date of Request: January 22, 1997

- Please estimate the fiscal impact (in dollar amounts) of the above measure for state general or special funds, counties, cities, and school districts.

Narrative: *This bill assess a fee of one dollar per year for each service account for each electric, gas and telephone account. At present there are approximately 575,070 accounts, excluding telephone long distance accounts. The number of telephone long distance accounts is unknown but those accounts would merely duplicate the local service accounts, which are already included in the 575,070 accounts. The bill would have a fiscal impact on the utility customers of \$1,150,140 per biennium, excluding telephone long distance accounts. The impact would be on the customers and not on the state general or special funds, counties, cities, or school districts. **(Narrative continued on next page.)***

- State fiscal effect in dollar amounts:

	1995-97 Biennium		1997-99 Biennium		1999-2001 Biennium	
	General Fund	Special Funds	General Fund	Special Funds	General Fund	Special Funds
Revenues:	None		None		None	
Expenditures:	None (See Above)		None (See Above)		None (See Above)	

- What, if any, is the effect of this measure on the appropriation for your agency or department:

- For rest of 1995-97 biennium: *None (See Above).*
- For the 1997-99 biennium: *None (See Above).*
- For the 1999-2001 biennium: *None (See Above).*

- County, City, and School District fiscal effect in dollar amounts:

1995-97 Biennium			1997-99 Biennium			1999-2001 Biennium		
Counties	Cities	School Districts	Counties	Cities	School Districts	Counties	Cities	School Districts
None (See Above)			None (See Above)			None (See Above)		

If additional space is needed, attach a supplemental sheet.

Signed: 

Typed Name: Jon H. Mielke, Executive Secretary

Date Prepared: 1-24-97

Department: Public Service Commission

Phone Number: 328-2400

1. *Narrative Continued: The Commission believes that a consumer advocacy division of four employees, including one engineer or other technical person, one accountant or other financial person, one attorney, and one administrative assistant would be adequate to fulfill the duties of the division as contemplated by the act. The administrative cost of such a division is estimated to be approximately \$550,000 per biennium.*

Additional funds (perhaps \$50,000 to \$100,000 per biennium) would be needed to pay for outside assistance as necessary to perform the functions of the division.

It is estimated that a public utilities consumer advocacy division could be adequately funded for approximately 50 cents per customer account, excluding telephone long distance accounts, rather than the proposed \$1.00 per account, excluding telephone long distance accounts, per year.