

# FISCAL NOTE

Requested by Legislative Council

01/03/2003

Bill/Resolution No.: SB 2117

1A. **State fiscal effect:** *Identify the state fiscal effect and the fiscal effect on agency appropriations compared to funding levels and appropriations anticipated under current law.*

	2001-2003 Biennium		2003-2005 Biennium		2005-2007 Biennium	
	General Fund	Other Funds	General Fund	Other Funds	General Fund	Other Funds
Revenues		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$25,000	\$0
Expenditures		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$25,000	\$0
Appropriations		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

1B. **County, city, and school district fiscal effect:** *Identify the fiscal effect on the appropriate political subdivision.*

2001-2003 Biennium			2003-2005 Biennium			2005-2007 Biennium		
Counties	Cities	School Districts	Counties	Cities	School Districts	Counties	Cities	School Districts
\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

2. **Narrative:** *Identify the aspects of the measure which cause fiscal impact and include any comments relevant to your analysis.*

The Public Service commission has a Valuation Fund for use in certain types of cases. The appropriation for the Valuation Fund is a line item in the PSC's general appropriation. Today the Valuation Fund can be used for out-of-pocket expenses (publication of notices, purchase of transcripts, costs for an administrative law judge, costs of expert witnesses, etc.) in telecommunications cases, and gas and electric rate increase applications. Amounts paid from the Valuation Fund are billed back to and repaid by each utility involved in the case. Current appropriation for the Valuation Fund is \$125,000 for the 2001-2003 biennium, and \$125,000 is requested in the Commission's appropriation bill (SB 2008) for the 2003-2005 biennium. SB 2117 expands the use of the Valuation Fund to include additional types of gas and electric cases. Examples of these include staff complaints to lower rates, company applications for alternative regulation, and merger or transfer cases. The bill expands the authorized use of the fund, but requires no additional appropriation.

3. **State fiscal effect detail:** *For information shown under state fiscal effect in 1A, please:*

A. **Revenues:** *Explain the revenue amounts. Provide detail, when appropriate, for each revenue type and fund affected and any amounts included in the executive budget.*

The amount \$25,000 represents the midpoint of the range \$0 to \$50,000. We are unable to project actual revenues or expenditures because we do not know how many or what types of cases may come up. However, whatever amounts are spent on these types of cases will be billed back to the utility involved, and paid back by that utility into the fund. Consequently, revenues will equal expenditures.

B. **Expenditures:** *Explain the expenditure amounts. Provide detail, when appropriate, for each agency, line item, and fund affected and the number of FTE positions affected.*

See above.

C. **Appropriations:** *Explain the appropriation amounts. Provide detail, when appropriate, of the effect on the biennial appropriation for each agency and fund affected and any amounts included in the executive budget. Indicate the relationship between the amounts shown for expenditures and appropriations.*

The appropriation for the use of the Valuation Fund is included in the Commission's general appropriation, SB 2008. SB 2117 requires no additional appropriation.

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**Agency:** PSC  
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