

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH  
OVERSIGHT DIVISION

**FISCAL NOTE**

L.R. No.: 3744-01  
Bill No.: HB 1685  
Subject: Consumer Protection; Public Service Commission; Utilities  
Type: Original  
Date: March 22, 2006

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**FISCAL SUMMARY**

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE FUND</b>			
<b>FUND AFFECTED</b>	<b>FY 2007</b>	<b>FY 2008</b>	<b>FY 2009</b>
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on General Revenue Fund</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON OTHER STATE FUNDS</b>			
<b>FUND AFFECTED</b>	<b>FY 2007</b>	<b>FY 2008</b>	<b>FY 2009</b>
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>Other</u> State Funds</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

Numbers within parentheses: ( ) indicate costs or losses.  
This fiscal note contains 4 pages.

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FEDERAL FUNDS</b>			
<b>FUND AFFECTED</b>	<b>FY 2007</b>	<b>FY 2008</b>	<b>FY 2009</b>
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>All</u> Federal Funds</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON LOCAL FUNDS</b>			
<b>FUND AFFECTED</b>	<b>FY 2007</b>	<b>FY 2008</b>	<b>FY 2009</b>
<b>Local Government</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

### **FISCAL ANALYSIS**

#### **ASSUMPTION**

Officials from the **Department of Economic Development - Office of Public Counsel** stated this proposal would not have a significant fiscal impact on their agency.

Officials from the **Department of Social Services - Family Support Division** project a zero fiscal impact to their agency if this proposal is enacted.

Officials from the **Department of Economic Development - Public Service Commission** stated this proposal would cause some current staff resources to be redirected towards the development and monitoring of a low-income pilot bill payment program.

Officials from the **Office of the Secretary of State (SOS)** assume many bills considered by the General Assembly include provisions allowing or requiring agencies to submit rules and regulations to implement the act. The SOS is provided with core funding to handle a certain amount of normal activity resulting from each year's legislative session. The fiscal impact for this proposal for Administrative Rules is less than \$1,500. The SOS recognizes this is a small amount and does not expect additional funding would be required to meet these costs. However, SOS also recognizes that many such bills may be passed in a given year and that collectively the costs may be in excess of what the SOS can sustain with their core budget. Any additional required funding would be handled through the budget process.

<u>FISCAL IMPACT - State Government</u>	FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009
	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>

<u>FISCAL IMPACT - Local Government</u>	FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009
	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>

FISCAL IMPACT - Small Business

No direct fiscal impact to small businesses would be expected as a result of this proposal.

DESCRIPTION

This proposed legislation requires the Missouri Public Service Commission (PSC) to implement an energy assurance program pilot project by October 1, 2006. Eligibility for the program is limited to households with an income of less than 125% of the federal poverty level. The program allows participants to pay current heating bills based upon a percentage of their income and to earn credits to be used toward all or part of their pre-program debts. The program will provide conservation education to participants targeted as high energy users. The PSC must provide an evaluation of the project and make their report available to the General Assembly no later than January 1, 2007, and every January 1 thereafter. The PSC will work with electric utilities and gas companies serving customers in Missouri to meet the requirements of the proposal.

The provisions of the proposal will expire six years from the effective date.

This legislation is not federally mandated, would not duplicate any other program and would not require additional capital improvements or rental space.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Department of Economic Development  
Public Service Commission  
Office of Public Counsel  
Office of Secretary of State  
Administrative Rules Division  
Department of Social Services  
Family Support Division

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mickey Wilson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mickey Wilson, CPA  
Director  
March 22, 2006