HB 481 -- PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

SPONSOR: Kidd

Currently, the Public Service Commission is required to have an independent technical advisory staff of up to six employees and may retain a personal advisor. This bill modifies these requirements by no longer requiring, but allowing, the commission to retain an independent technical advisory staff of up to 10 employees and a personal advisor to each commissioner.

The bill also specifies that communications with advisory staff and advisors regarding deliberations by the commission or matters that arise during the course of commission proceedings are protected from disclosure. Any advisory staff member or personal advisor who previously worked for an entity regulated by or appearing before the commission may not advise the commission on cases in which the advisory staff member or personal advisor participated while employed by the entity.