

Fiscal Estimate Narratives

PSC 9/25/2003

LRB Number 03-2364/2	Introduction Number AB-529	Estimate Type Original
Subject Prohibiting objectionable flows of electric current		

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

AB 529 requires electric utilities and cooperative associations to remedy problems associated with their plant or equipment that result in an objectionable flow of current at the premises of a customer or member. The bill provides the customer with the ability to sue the utility for trespass of an objectionable flow of current and to bring product liability actions in court.

The cost of this bill on state and local government including municipal utilities is impossible to quantify. Presumably, there will be increased costs to all levels of government and municipal utilities because awards made in the potentially numerous lawsuits will ultimately be borne by the ratepayers. In addition, the requirement to upgrade the state electrical system by the year 2012 would likely result in significant penalties for non-compliance. Presumably, these penalties will be passed on to the ratepayer including state and local government.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications

Unknown