

Fiscal Estimate Narratives
PSC 12/7/2005

LRB Number 05-3616/2	Introduction Number SB-459	Estimate Type Original
Description Administration and funding of programs for utility public benefits; renewable energy requirements for utilities and retail electric cooperatives; energy efficiency requirements for state construction; revising and reviewing the state energy conservation code; state use of renewable energy resources; anaerobic digester research; and granting rule-making authority		

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

This proposed legislation makes several modifications to existing laws related to the Public Benefits Program. The bill would require the PSC to expand its current role in the program in several areas. In most cases, the PSC role will require analysis and decisions to be made. Most of these decisions would be reached in a formal proceeding before the Commission. In a couple of cases rules of the PSC would require modifications. The process to make these modifications would require the PSC to conduct a rule-making proceeding. Some changes in the bill will require the PSC to include additional items in rate cases for the major utilities. It is not anticipated that these additional discussion points would have a fiscal impact on the PSC because rate cases for the major electric utilities are conducted on a routine basis.

The PSC conducts approximately 500 case proceedings during any one year. Three or four more cases will not require the addition of any staffing or appropriation increase for the PSC.

The PSC does not believe there are local costs associated with the PSC portions of the bill.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications

None