

Fiscal Estimate - 2001 Session

Original Updated Corrected Supplemental

LRB Number 01-4955/3	Introduction Number AB-889	
Subject Assembly task force on telecommunications		
Fiscal Effect		
State:		
<input type="checkbox"/> No State Fiscal Effect <input type="checkbox"/> Indeterminate <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Existing Appropriations <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Existing Revenues <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Existing Appropriations <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Existing Revenues <input type="checkbox"/> Create New Appropriations		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Increase Costs - May be possible to absorb within agency's budget <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Costs		
Local:		
<input type="checkbox"/> No Local Government Costs <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Indeterminate		
1. <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Costs <input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Costs <input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory	3. <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Revenue <input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Revenue <input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory	
5. Types of Local Government Units Affected <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Towns <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Village <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cities <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Counties <input type="checkbox"/> Others <input type="checkbox"/> School Districts <input type="checkbox"/> WTCS Districts		
Fund Sources Affected		
<input type="checkbox"/> GPR <input type="checkbox"/> FED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRO <input type="checkbox"/> PRS <input type="checkbox"/> SEG <input type="checkbox"/> SEGS 20.155 (1) (g)		
Affected Ch. 20 Appropriations		
Agency/Prepared By	Authorized Signature	Date
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Fiscal Estimate Narratives
PSC 3/4/02

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Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

This bill proposes a Legislative Council study, creates a 911 board and makes some limited changes in regulation of the telecommunications industry. Provisions of the bill will require, in some cases, specific action by the Public Service Commission (PSC) to accomplish new requirements. Specific requirements of the bill related to the PSC are:

The bill provides the PSC with state jurisdiction, to the extent authorized by federal law, to supervise and regulate telephone numbers and area codes. (s. 24)

The PSC would be required to include information on competition for telecommunications services throughout the state in the biennial report to the legislature on infrastructure. The PSC may also require the filing of information by telecommunications providers or a CATV provider as necessary to prepare the biennial infrastructure report. (s.29)

In addition, the bill requires the wireless 911 board established under the bill to establish emergency rules on wireless provider surcharges to consumers. If the wireless 911 board is not appointed and qualified by July 1, 2002, the PSC shall promulgate the emergency rules. Because of timing issues it is likely that the PSC would be required to initiate that proceeding.

Finally, the PSC may promulgate rules to impose on local government units if other provisions of the new law related to municipal entry to telecommunications are not adequate to protect the public interest. (s.55)

State Fiscal Impact on PSC

The bill will increase PSC workload; however, it appears that the work can be absorbed within the agency by reallocation of positions.

Local Cost Impact

The bill will have some effects on local government. Under the bill 911 operations will be eligible to receive back a percent of their cost of operations. In addition, the bill restricts the ability of municipalities to enter into telecommunications markets without conducting a referendum. The cost of conducting a referendum would depend on the size of the municipality. At this point the revenue received by 911 operations and the additional costs of any municipality wishing to enter into a telecommunications operation are not quantifiable.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications