

Fiscal Estimate - 2007 Session

Original
 Updated
 Corrected
 Supplemental

LRB Number 07-2192/1	Introduction Number SB-107
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Description
 Regulation of cable television and video service providers

Fiscal Effect

State:

<input type="checkbox"/> No State Fiscal Effect	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Increase Existing Revenues	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Increase Costs - May be possible to absorb within agency's budget <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
<input type="checkbox"/> Indeterminate	<input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Existing Revenues	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Increase Existing Appropriations		<input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Costs
<input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Existing Appropriations		
<input type="checkbox"/> Create New Appropriations		

Local:

<input type="checkbox"/> No Local Government Costs		5.Types of Local Government Units Affected
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Indeterminate		
1. <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Costs	3. <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Revenue	<input type="checkbox"/> Towns <input type="checkbox"/> Village <input type="checkbox"/> Cities
<input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory	<input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory	<input type="checkbox"/> Counties <input type="checkbox"/> Others
2. <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Costs	4. <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Revenue	<input type="checkbox"/> School Districts <input type="checkbox"/> WTCS Districts
<input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory	<input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory	

Fund Sources Affected	Affected Ch. 20 Appropriations
<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 s. 20.144(1)(g)	

Agency/Prepared By	Authorized Signature	Date
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Fiscal Estimate Narratives

DFI 4/25/2007

LRB Number	07-2192/1	Introduction Number	SB-107	Estimate Type	Updated
Description Regulation of cable television and video service providers					

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

This fiscal estimate is for Senate Substitute Amendment 1 to 2007 Senate Bill 107 as amended by Senate Amendments 1,2,3,4 and 5.

This bill creates new responsibilities for the Department associated with issuing a "Video Service Franchise." Currently, municipalities grant cable franchises to cable operators. Under this bill, the Department is given the responsibility to review application requests for completeness and to issue a franchise within 15 days if the application is complete. The bill establishes fees payable to the Department for a Video Service Franchise application and a Modified Video Service Franchise application.

The bill as amended requires the Department to establish rules providing criteria for determining whether the filer of a complete Video Service Application is legally, financially, and technically qualified to provide video service. A telecommunications utility or qualified cable operator, however, is automatically determined to be an applicant that is legally, financially and technically qualified to provide video service. Video Service providers are also required to report to the Department transfers of the franchise to any successor in interest. The Department does not review or approve transfers.

The bill increases Departmental responsibilities by requiring document processing, application review and the accessible storage of records and information. Most importantly, the bill creates the need for technical resources for the Department to use in determining whether applicants, requiring review, meet the test of being legally, financially and technically qualified to provide video service. The number of applications likely to occur is not known, it is believed, however, that the fees and expenditure authority provided for in the bill will support necessary operations.

Estimated costs to the agency include:

Annual maintenance of a database of providers and service areas \$21,000

Receipt and processing of Applications and Modifications \$24,000

Technical assistance resource \$55,000

Total annual cost estimate \$100,000

Long-Range Fiscal Implications