

**Legislative
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**Joint Committee on
Ways and Means**

Sen. Richard Devlin, Senate Co-Chair
Rep. Nancy Nathanson, House Co-Chair

Sen. Betsy Johnson, Senate Co-Vice Chair
Sen. Jackie Winters, Senate Co-Vice Chair
Rep. Dan Rayfield, House Co-Vice Chair
Rep. Greg Smith, House Co-Vice Chair

To: Transportation and Economic Development Subcommittee
From: Gregory Jolivette, Legislative Fiscal Office
Date: June 22, 2017
Subject: SB 978-A – Relating to utilities.

SB 978-A requires the Public Utility Commission (PUC) to establish a public process for investigating trends, technologies, and policy drivers in the electricity sector; and, directs the commission to explore changes to the existing regulatory system and incentives that support developing industry trends and new policy objectives without compromising affordable rates, safety, and reliable service. The bill requires the PUC to report its findings to the Legislative Assembly no later than September 15, 2018.

The PUC proposes the establishment of one Utility and Energy Analyst 3 position in the 2017-19 biennium to complete the work. The -A4 amendment increases the Other Funds expenditure limitation for PUC by \$166,400 to fund the limited duration position.

The measure previously had hearings in the Senate Committee on Business and Transportation on 4/5/2017 and 4/17/2017.

Recommended Changes

LFO recommends adoption of the -A4 amendment.

MOTION: I move adoption of the -A4 amendment to SB 978. (VOTE)

Final Subcommittee Action

LFO recommends that SB 978, as amended by the -A4 amendment, be moved to the Ways and Means Full Committee.

MOTION: I move SB 978, as amended, to the Full Committee with a do pass recommendation. (VOTE)

Carriers

Full Committee: _____

House Floor: _____

Senate Floor: _____