

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

Sen. Betsy Johnson, Senate Co-Chair
Sen. Elizabeth Steiner Hayward, Senate Co-Chair
Rep. Dan Rayfield, House Co-Chair

Sen. Jackie Winters, Senate Co-Vice Chair
Rep. David Gomberg, House Co-Vice Chair
Rep. Greg Smith, House Co-Vice Chair

To: Transportation and Economic Development Subcommittee
From: Gregory Jolivette, Legislative Fiscal Office
Date: March 28, 2019
Subject: SB 68 – Relating to fees imposed by the Public Utility Commission

The Public Utility Commission assesses annual fees on regulated energy and water utilities, and telecommunications providers to fund its operating expenses. The fee is assessed as a percentage of the utility’s annual gross operating revenues. Current law establishes a maximum allowable fee of 0.30% of gross operating revenue. Senate Bill 68 increases the maximum annual fee for energy and water utilities from 0.30% to 0.45% and increases the allowable fee on telecommunications providers from 0.30% to 0.35%.

It should be noted that PUC does not intend to assess the maximum allowable rate in 2019-21. The agency expects actual fees to be in the range of 0.35% to 0.40%. The budget bill for the Public Utility Commission, SB 5534, assumes new revenues in 2019-21 of \$9 million from the passage of this bill.

Final Subcommittee Action

MOTION: I move SB 68 to the Full Committee with a do pass recommendation.
(VOTE)

Carriers

Full Committee: _____

House Floor: _____

Senate Floor: _____