

Department of Fiscal Services
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 165 (Chairman, Environmental Matters Committee)
(Departmental - Public Service Commission)
Environmental Matters

Public Service Commission - Electric and Gas Meter Testing Equipment

This departmental bill repeals the requirement that electric and gas meters be stamped or marked by the Public Service Commission to demonstrate the commission's approval of the meter.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: General fund revenues would decrease by \$8,500 annually and general fund expenditures could decrease by an indeterminate amount beginning in FY 1997 as discussed below.

Local Effect: No effect.

Small Business Effect: The Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation has determined that this bill has minimal or no impact on small business (attached). Fiscal Services concurs with this assessment.

Fiscal Analysis

State Revenues: The commission collects an estimated \$8,500 in fees each year from 14 electricity producers. Thus, under this bill general fund revenues would decrease by \$8,500 per year.

State Expenditures: This bill reduces requirements of the Public Service Commission and may, therefore, reduce expenditures. The commission indicates that specific positions are not solely associated with the functions repealed by this bill. Further, any additional resources resulting from the reduction in workload will be redirected to other functions of the technical staff. However, the commission indicates that passage of this bill would reduce annual maintenance expenditures for testing equipment by \$2,500 per year. Absent performance measurement data, such as the number of meters tested and stamped each year, Fiscal

Services cannot estimate the additional reduction in expenditures that could be realized from the reduction in workload.

Information Source(s): Public Service Commission, Department of Fiscal Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - January 30, 1996

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Analysis by: Paul Ballou

Reviewed by: John Rixey

Direct Inquiries to:

John Rixey, Coordinating Analyst

(410) 841-3710

(301) 858-3710