

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2000 Session

FISCAL NOTE

Senate Bill 498 (Senator Hogan. *et al.*)

Finance

Public Utility Companies - Rates - Intra-County and Adjacent County Phone Calls

This bill requires the Public Service Commission to adopt an alternative rate setting mechanism for specified types of local telephone calls.

The bill sets forth deadlines by which the Public Service Commission must file specified petitions with the Federal Communications Commission and report on specified matters to the Senate Finance Committee and the House Environmental Matters Committee.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: The bill is not expected to significantly impact governmental operations or finances.

Local Effect: The bill is not expected to significantly impact governmental operations or finances.

Small Business Effect: Potential minimal.

Analysis

Current Law: None applicable.

Background: This bill arises out of requests by Maryland residents for expanded local calling areas. Such a request by a group of Calvert County residents is at issue in case number 8772, which is pending before the Public Service Commission (PSC).

Customers ultimately pay for expanded local calling areas through higher rates.

State Fiscal Effect: The PSC advises that it could meet the bill's requirements using existing budgeted resources.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: HB 56 (Delegate Stern, *et al.*) - Environmental Matters.

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

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 2, 2000
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