

**COSTS OF INTERVENTION IN PUBLIC
SERVICE COMMISSION PROCEEDINGS**

2006 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: James R. Gowans

Senate Sponsor: _____

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill allows a person to be reimbursed for expenses incurred representing a class of established utility customers that is not statutorily represented by the Committee of Consumer Services in a Public Service Commission proceeding.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- ▶ allows a person to be reimbursed for expenses incurred representing an otherwise unrepresented class of established utility customers in a Public Service Commission proceeding; and

- ▶ provides that reimbursement be made from funds collected under Title 54, Chapter 5, Public Utility Regulation Fee.

Monies Appropriated in this Bill:

None

Other Special Clauses:

None

Utah Code Sections Affected:

ENACTS:

54-7-31, Utah Code Annotated 1953



28 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

29 Section 1. Section **54-7-31** is enacted to read:

30 **54-7-31. Reimbursement of expenses for classes of consumers.**

31 (1) For purposes of this section, "a class of established utility customers" means a
32 group of persons that use electricity, natural gas, or telecommunications services provided
33 under commission-approved contracts or tariffs.

34 (2) The commission shall reimburse a person that the commission determines
35 represents a class of established utility customers that is not represented by the Committee of
36 Consumer Services for the person's reasonable expenses incurred advocating on behalf of the
37 class in a commission proceeding.

38 (3) If only a portion of a person's expenses under Subsection (2) are incurred in the
39 representation of the class, the commission may reimburse the person for only that portion of
40 expenses incurred in the representation of the class.

41 (4) Reimbursement under this section shall be made by the state treasurer from monies
42 collected by the commission under Section 54-5-1.5.

Legislative Review Note

as of 1-26-06 11:30 AM

Based on a limited legal review, this legislation has not been determined to have a high probability of being held unconstitutional.

Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel

Fiscal Note
Bill Number HB0191**Costs of Intervention in Public Service Commission**
Proceedings*07-Feb-06*
11:14 AM

State Impact

Fiscal impacts could be significant, depending on the number of people and the types of expenses determined eligible by the Public Service Commission. While these expenses are not capped, the revenue source (Public Utility Regulatory Fee) is capped and current regulatory spending is nearing the maximum revenue under the cap.

	<u>FY 2007</u>	<u>FY 2008</u>	<u>FY 2007</u>	<u>FY 2008</u>
	<u>Approp.</u>	<u>Approp.</u>	<u>Revenue</u>	<u>Revenue</u>
General Fund Restricted	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$0	\$0
TOTAL	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$0	\$0

Individual and Business Impact

Individuals and businesses may benefit from the increased spending.

Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst