HB04-1225

JBC STAFF FISCAL ANALYSIS
SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

CONCERNING THE "LOW-INCOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE ACT".

Prime Sponsors:	Representative Berry	JBC Analyst:	Jody Smith
	Senator Sandoval	Phone:	866-4958
		Date Prepared:	April 13, 2004

Summary of Amendments Made to the Bill After the 02/03/04 Legislative Council Staff Fiscal Note was Prepared (Amended by the House Committee on Energy and Transportation 02/05/04; by the House on Second Reading 02/18/04; and by the Senate Committee on Business Affairs and Labor 03/17/04)

1. Changes the effective date of the statute to August 4, 2004 from January 1, 2005 and the implementation date for the energy assistance charge to September 1, 2005 from January 1, 2005.

2. Exempts impacts stemming from implementation of the Energy Assistance Program from measurements under utilities' quality of service plans.

Neither of the amendments described above affect the fiscal impact of the bill.

JBC Staff Concurrence with Legislative Council Fiscal Note

XXX	**Concurs**		**Does Not Concur**		**Updated**

Amendments/Appropriation Status

The bill does not include, nor does it require, an appropriation clause for FY 2004-05. An appropriations clause is not necessary because the rule-making required under H.B. 04-1225 can be conducted by the Public Utilities Commission using existing resources.

Sponsor Amendments

Sponsor amendment **L.015** would exempt State departments and agencies from the $1 monthly non-residential account low-income energy assistance charge. This amendment will address the concern, mentioned on page 3 of the Legislative Council Staff Fiscal Note, that the program could raise the State's utility expenses.

Questions and Concerns

None.