

Colorado Legislative Council Staff Fiscal Note

**STATE
FISCAL IMPACT**

Drafting Number: LLS 15-0954 **Date:** April 14, 2015
Prime Sponsor(s): Sen. Sonnenberg **Bill Status:** Senate Judiciary
Fiscal Analyst: Erin Reynolds (303-866-4146)

BILL TOPIC: UTILITY'S PUBLIC NOTICE OF SCHEDULE CHANGES

Fiscal Impact Summary*	FY 2015-2016	FY 2016-2017
State Revenue		
State Expenditures	Minimal workload reduction.	
FTE Position Change		
Appropriation Required: None.		

* This summary shows changes from current law under the bill for each fiscal year.

Summary of Legislation

Under current law, all public utilities, with the exception of rail carriers, must provide notice to the public and the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) in the Department of Regulatory Agencies (DORA) at least 30 days before any change is made to any rate, fare, toll, rental, charge, classification, service, privilege, or facility. Such notice is required to be given by filing with the PUC and keeping open for public inspection a new schedule that states in plain language the changes to be made and the time when the changes will go into effect. Transportation and water utilities are required by PUC rules to give other specific notices. The remaining applicable utilities must provide one additional form of public notice by any of the following methods:

- newspaper publication;
- mailing;
- bill insert; or
- another method which the PUC may approve through an application process.

By changing the word "application" to "request", this bill changes the requirement that the PUC conduct a formal proceeding to approve another notice method. Instead, the utility will file a motion within an existing proceeding.

State Expenditures

The bill is expected to minimally reduce workload in the PUC. While the bill still requires PUC review of all alternative notice requests, it removes the requirement that the PUC conduct a separate proceeding to review each request, thereby reducing formal review time. Because this workload impact is minimal, no adjustment to appropriations is required.

Effective Date

The bill takes effect August 5, 2015, if the General Assembly adjourns on May 6, 2015, as scheduled, and no referendum petition is filed.

State and Local Government Contacts

Counties
Municipalities

Judicial Department
Regulatory Agencies

Local Affairs
Transportation