

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE
Fiscal Note



Fiscal Note On: **HB 744** HLS 26RS 1153

Bill Text Version: **ORIGINAL**

Opp. Chamb. Action:

Proposed Amd.:

Sub. Bill For.:

Date: April 10, 2026	2:51 PM	Author: WRIGHT
Dept./Agy.: Public Service Commission		Analyst: Richie Anderson
Subject: Public Utilities		

PUBLIC SERVICE COMN OR INCREASE SG RV See Note Page 1 of 1
(Constitutional Amendment) Provides for certain common carriers and public utilities to be regulated by the Public Service Commission

Present Constitution provides for the regulation authority and exemptions of the Public Service Commission (PSC). Proposed Constitutional amendment provides that the PSC shall regulate all common carriers and public utilities in the city of New Orleans and shall have regulatory authority provided by law.

To be submitted to the electors at the statewide election to be held on November 3, 2026.

EXPENDITURES	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	SEE BELOW	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Agy. Self-Gen.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Ded./Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Local Funds	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	
Annual Total						
REVENUES	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Agy. Self-Gen.	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	
Ded./Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Local Funds	DECREASE	DECREASE	DECREASE	DECREASE	DECREASE	
Annual Total						

EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION

The New Orleans City Council may have a decrease in expenditures from the proposed constitutional amendment as they will no longer be required to regulate all common carriers and public utilities, including the New Orleans Sewage and Water Board (NOSWB). These entities will fall under the jurisdiction of the Public Service Commission (PSC) and will be subject to a fee by PSC for the inspection, control, and supervision of the business operations. This increase in expenditures for these entities is indeterminable as PSC fees are determined based on receipts of the business. The LFO is awaiting a response from the New Orleans City Council to corroborate the information contained in this fiscal note. Should that information materially change the analysis, this fiscal note will be updated to reflect the new information.

Proposed constitutional amendment provides that the PSC shall regulate all common carriers and public utilities in the city of New Orleans and shall have regulatory authority provided by law. The PSC reports that they will be able to implement the proposed constitutional amendment using existing staff and resources.

Proposed constitutional amendment may increase SGF expenditures for the Department of State. In certain circumstances, the Secretary of State may incur minimal ballot processing costs associated with this measure. As a regular practice, the department budgets for up to 10 constitutional amendments and statewide propositions for the fall statewide elections. To the extent the ballot includes more than 10 constitutional amendments and statewide propositions, the Secretary of State may require additional SGF resources for the 11/03/26 statewide election. Any expenditure impact would be realized in FY 27.

REVENUE EXPLANATION

Proposed constitutional amendment will increase Self-Generated Revenues deposited into the Utility and Carrier Inspection and Supervision Dedicated Fund Account by an indeterminable amount. Proposed constitutional amendment provides that the PSC shall regulate all common carriers and public utilities in the city of New Orleans and shall have such regulatory authority. Each entity that the commission regulates is subject to a quarterly Utility and Carrier Inspection and Supervision Fee which is based on the entities gross receipts. This fee nominally increases based on the thresholds provided in RS 45:1177. PSC reports they are unable to determine the number of utilities and common carriers that would be subject to the proposed constitutional amendment, and therefore cannot project gross receipts for the entities. The increase in SGR will proportionally increase based on the gross receipts of the entities that become regulated by PSC.

Proposed constitutional amendment may result in a decrease in revenue for the New Orleans City Council. Common carriers and public utilities currently pay the council a fee to provide regulation for the companies, which under proposed law would not be collected, a corresponding decrease can be anticipated.

Senate
 13.5.1 >= \$100,000 Annual Fiscal Cost {S & H}
 13.5.2 >= \$500,000 Annual Tax or Fee Change {S & H}

House
 6.8(F)(1) >= \$100,000 SGF Fiscal Cost {H & S}
 6.8(G) >= \$500,000 Tax or Fee Increase or a Net Fee Decrease {S}


Patrice Thomas
Deputy Fiscal Officer