

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH  
OVERSIGHT DIVISION

**FISCAL NOTE**

L.R. No.: 2229S.02C  
 Bill No.: SCS for SB 567  
 Subject: Public Service Commission; Utilities  
 Type: Original  
 Date: April 24, 2023

Bill Summary: This proposal modifies provisions relating to large water public utilities.

**FISCAL SUMMARY**

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE FUND</b>			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on General Revenue</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON OTHER STATE FUNDS</b>			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026
Public Service Commission Fund (0607)	\$0 or (Up to \$453,970)	\$0 or (Up to \$532,485)	\$0 or (Up to \$541,576)
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>Other</u> State Funds</b>	<b>\$0 or (Up to \$453,970)</b>	<b>\$0 or (Up to \$532,485)</b>	<b>\$0 or (Up to \$541,576)</b>

Numbers within parentheses: () indicate costs or losses.

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FEDERAL FUNDS</b>			
<b>FUND AFFECTED</b>	<b>FY 2024</b>	<b>FY 2025</b>	<b>FY 2026</b>
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>All</u> Federal Funds</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FULL TIME EQUIVALENT (FTE)</b>			
<b>FUND AFFECTED</b>	<b>FY 2024</b>	<b>FY 2025</b>	<b>FY 2026</b>
Public Service Commission Fund	0 or Up to 5 FTE	0 or Up to 5 FTE	0 or Up to 5 FTE
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on FTE</b>	<b>0 or Up to 5 FTE</b>	<b>0 or Up to 5 FTE</b>	<b>0 or Up to 5 FTE</b>

- Estimated Net Effect (expenditures or reduced revenues) expected to exceed \$250,000 in any of the three fiscal years after implementation of the act or at full implementation of the act.
- Estimated Net Effect (savings or increased revenues) expected to exceed \$250,000 in any of the three fiscal years after implementation of the act or at full implementation of the act.

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON LOCAL FUNDS</b>			
<b>FUND AFFECTED</b>	<b>FY 2024</b>	<b>FY 2025</b>	<b>FY 2026</b>
<b>Local Government</b>	<b>\$0 to (Unknown)</b>	<b>\$0 to (Unknown)</b>	<b>\$0 to (Unknown)</b>

## FISCAL ANALYSIS

### ASSUMPTION

#### §393.3.20.5 – Large Public Water Utilities

Officials from the **Department of Commerce and Insurance – Public Service Commission (PSC)** assume this version of the proposal will only allow six months for the Public Service Commission to make a decision on the application submitted by the public utility company. Currently, depending on the level of detail and the size of the acquisition, it can take nine to twelve months, or longer in some cases, to make a decision. This does not include the potential of having to go to hearing.

PSC assumes this legislation will require an additional 5 FTE to process the applications in a six month time frame.

**Oversight** does not have any information to the contrary. Oversight assumes the PSC could absorb some of the costs related to this proposal as this is procedure the PSC already has in place, or there may not be many large water public utility companies that acquire smaller companies; therefore, Oversight will reflect the FTE cost as **\$0 or Up To 5 FTE** to the Public Service Commission Fund.

Officials from the **Morgan County PWS**D assume this proposal will have a fiscal impact on their water district.

**Oversight** assumes this proposal modifies the definition of a “large water public utility” to include any public utility that regularly provides water service, sewer service or a combination of either to more than 8,000 customer connections and also specifies that a large water public utility may file with the PSC for a water and sewer infrastructure rate adjustment.

According to the PSC “FY 2022 Water/Sewer Companies Regulated by the Missouri Public Service Commission Report”, this legislation would currently allow 2 additional combination water and sewer companies (Confluence Rivers Utility Operating Co. and Liberty Utilities) to be defined as a “large water public utility”. Oversight assumes these newly defined companies could file for a water and sewer infrastructure rate adjustment which could increase utility cost to local political subdivisions.

Oversight will reflect a range from \$0 (no utility will increase rates) to an unknown cost to local political subdivisions for higher utility costs.

Officials from the, **Kansas City, South River Drainage District, St. Charles County Pwsd** and **Wayne County PWS**D each assume the proposal will have no fiscal impact on their respective organizations.

In response to a previous version, officials from the **City of Springfield, Lexington Water/Wastewater** and the **Metropolitan St. Louis Sewer District** each assume the proposal will have no fiscal impact on their respective organizations. **Oversight** does not have any information to the contrary. Therefore, Oversight will reflect a zero impact in the fiscal note for these agencies.

**Oversight** only reflects the responses received from state agencies and political subdivisions; however, other cities, counties and local utility companies were requested to respond to this proposed legislation but did not. A listing of political subdivisions included in the Missouri Legislative Information System (MOLIS) database is available upon request.

<u>FISCAL IMPACT – State Government</u>	FY 2024 (10 Mo.)	FY 2025	FY 2026
<b>PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION FUND (0607)</b>			
<u>Cost – PSC §393.3.20.5</u>	\$0 or Up to....	\$0 or Up to....	\$0 or Up to....
Personal Service	(\$254,771)	(\$311,840)	(\$318,076)
Fringe Benefits	(\$160,251)	(\$194,589)	(\$196,922)
Equipment and Expense	(\$38,948)	\$20,056	(\$26,577)
<b>Total Cost – PSC</b>	<b>(\$453,970)</b>	<b>(\$532,485)</b>	<b>(\$541,576)</b>
FTE Change – PSC	0 or Up to 5 FTE	0 or Up to 5 FTE	0 or Up to 5 FTE
<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT TO THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION FUND (0607)</b>	<b><u>\$0 or (Up to \$453,970)</u></b>	<b><u>\$0 or (Up to \$532,485)</u></b>	<b><u>\$0 or (Up to \$541,576)</u></b>
Estimated Net FTE Change to the Public Service Commission Fund	0 or Up to 5 FTE	0 or Up to 5 FTE	0 or Up to 5 FTE

<u>FISCAL IMPACT – Local Government</u>	FY 2024 (10 Mo.)	FY 2025	FY 2026
<b>LOCAL POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS</b>			
<u>Cost - Local Governments</u>			
Potential increase in electric utility costs §393.3.20.5	\$0 to <u>(Unknown)</u>	\$0 to <u>(Unknown)</u>	\$0 to <u>(Unknown)</u>
<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT TO LOCAL POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS</b>	<b><u>\$0 to (Unknown)</u></b>	<b><u>\$0 to (Unknown)</u></b>	<b><u>\$0 to (Unknown)</u></b>

FISCAL IMPACT – Small Business

Some small businesses could have an increase in utility cost as a result of this proposal.

FISCAL DESCRIPTION

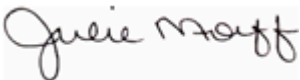
This bill modifies the definition of "large water public utility" to include any public utility that regularly provides water service, sewer service, or a combination of either to more than 8,000 customer connections and specifies that a large water public utility may file with the Public Service Commission for a Water and Sewer Infrastructure Rate Adjustment.

The proposal also provides that the Public Service Commission issue a decision on approval of an acquisition by a large water public utility of a small water utility within six months of the application submission.

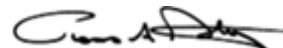
This legislation is not federally mandated, would not duplicate any other program and would not require additional capital improvements or rental space.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Department of Commerce and Insurance  
Lexington Water/Wastewater  
Morgan County Pwsd  
Wayne County Pwsd  
Metropolitan St. Louis Sewer District  
Kansas City  
City of Springfield  
South River Drainage District  
St. Charles County Pwsd



Julie Morff  
Director  
April 24, 2023



Ross Strobe  
Assistant Director  
April 24, 2023