

State Corporation Commission 2016 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: SB684

House of Origin	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Introduced	<input type="checkbox"/>	Substitute	<input type="checkbox"/>	Engrossed
Second House	<input type="checkbox"/>	In Committee	<input type="checkbox"/>	Substitute	<input type="checkbox"/>	Enrolled

2. Patron: Black

3. Committee: Commerce and Labor

4. Title: Utility vegetation management activities; civil penalties.

5. Summary: Utility vegetation management activities; civil penalties. Requires utilities to give notice by first-class mail of planned vegetation management activities to customers, landowners, and local governments. The notice, which is required to be sent both not less than 60 days before the activities commence and again approximately two weeks before the activities commence, shall include a map of the site or parcels where activities are proposed and a description of the procedures by which the person to whom the notice is mailed may appeal the conduct of the planned vegetation management activities. The State Corporation Commission (SCC) shall require utilities to establish reasonable criteria for the conduct of vegetation management activities, which shall be consistent with guidelines to be adopted by the SCC that establish standards for the conduct of vegetation management activities. Vegetation management activities by any utility shall not alter, trespass upon, or limit the rights of any property owner. The measure requires the SCC, upon receipt of a written complaint, to investigate the situation. The measure also authorizes the SCC to impose a civil penalty against a utility that violates these requirements. One-half of the civil penalty collected by the SCC is to be paid to the owner of the property damaged by the violation that gave rise to the assessment of the civil penalty, and the other one-half is to be deposited in a special fund created by this bill and used for administration and enforcement activities.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No.

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: No fiscal impact on the State Corporation Commission.

8. Fiscal Implications: This legislation will require that a new Special Fund and Revenue Source Code be established in the Department of Accounts Cardinal System and the SCC's Oracle Financial System and appropriate validation and approval rules be established in each system. These one-time changes can be absorbed by current staff at the State Corporation Commission. In addition, the ongoing enforcement of this legislation can be absorbed by current staff at the State Corporation Commission.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: State Corporation Commission

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

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11. Other Comments: No

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