

SB

320

COMMENTS OF THE ALASKA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION REGARDING SENATE BILL 320

The fiscal note contains monies for three additional staff for the Alaska Public Utilities Commission (APUC). (An attorney at the same range as the existing staff attorney, a Utility Financial Analyst III and a Secretary I.) The additional support staff for this proposed legislation would

(1) draft regulations implementing the provision for reasonable compensation for attorney's fees, expert witnesses and other costs of participating in proceedings before the APUC;

(2) analyze the applications from those individuals who contend that their interests would not be adequately represented in an APUC proceeding and determine those who are unable to effectively participate in a proceeding. Because of the costs involved and the payment of those costs from public funds, it is incumbent upon staff to examine these applications more rigorously than that currently given for petitions to intervene in proceedings;

(3) participate in preliminary proceedings to determine the eligibility of an applicant in the event a staff decision was appealed to the Commission.

(4) participate in proceedings before a court which could result from Commission determinations under this legislation.

In addition, the commission estimates based on 1976 actual hearing days (153), assuming eight hours of hearing time per day, that the attorney for a third party funded at \$80 per hour would require an appropriation of \$97,920 on an annualized basis. The Commission has made the assumption that expert witness fees including other costs of participation in a proceeding would be for on half of the 1976 hearing days (76) at a rate of \$350 a day for consultant fees. This total is \$266,000. In addition, we have included \$5,000 for travel by the proposed support staff of the APUC to implement this legislation.

FISCAL NOTE

I. REQUEST
 Bill/Resolution No. SB 320
 Title An Act relating to the Alaska Public Utilities Commission
 Requested by _____ Date 4/14/77

II. FISCAL DETAIL
 Agency Affected Commerce & Economic Development
 Program Category Affected Protection
 Budget Request Unit(s) Affected Alaska Public Utilities Commission

EXPENDITURES (Thousands of Dollars)

	FY 77	FY 78	FY 79	FY 80	FY 81	FY 82
100 PERSONAL SERVICES		100.8	100.8	100.8	100.8	100.8
200 TRAVEL		5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0
300 CONTRACTUAL		369.1	369.1	369.1	369.1	369.1
400 COMMODITIES		.9	.9	.9	.9	.9
500 EQUIPMENT		3.3				
600 LAND & STRUCTURES						
700 GRANTS, CLAIMS, ETC.						
TOTAL		479.1	475.8	475.8	475.8	475.8

FUNDING (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND		479.1	475.8	475.8	475.8	475.8
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER (Specify)						

POSITIONS

FULL TIME						
PART TIME						
TEMPORARY						

III. ANALYSIS (See Fiscal Note Preparation Instructions, Section III)

IV. DATE April 29, 1977 PREPARED BY *Carole S. Buss*
 AGENCY Alaska Public Utilities Commission
 PHONE 272-1487
 Original: Legislative Finance
 cc: Budget and Management
 Prime Sponsor (First Legislator Named)

ALASKA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Senate Bill 320 - Backup Information

The fiscal note contains monies for three additional staff for the Alaska Public Utilities Commission (APUC). (An Attorney at the same range of the existing staff attorney, a Utility Financial Analyst III and a Secretary I.) The additional support staff for this proposed legislation would

(1) draft regulations implementing the provision for reasonable compensation for attorney's fees, expert witnesses and other costs of participating in proceedings before the APUC;

(2) analyze the applications from those individuals who contend that their interests would not be adequately represented in an APUC proceeding and determine those who are unable to effectively participate in a proceeding. Because of the costs involved and the payment of those costs from public funds, it is incumbent upon staff to examine these applications more rigorously than that currently given for petitions to intervene in proceedings;

(3) participate in preliminary proceedings to determine the eligibility of an applicant in the event a staff decision was appealed to the Commission.

(4) participate in proceedings before a court which could result from Commission determinations under this legislation.

In addition, the Commission estimates based on 1976 actual hearing days (153), assuming eight hours of hearing time per day, that the attorney for a third party funded at \$80 per hour would require an appropriation of \$97,920 on an annualized basis. The Commission has made the assumption that expert witness fees including other costs of participation in a proceeding would be for one half of the 1976 hearing days (76) at a rate of \$350 a day for consultant fees. This total is \$266,000. In addition, we have included \$5,000 for travel by the proposed support staff of the APUC to implement this legislation.

THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
TENTH LEGISLATURE

FISCAL NOTE

I. REQUEST

Bill/Resolution No. SB 320

Title An Act relating to the Alaska Public Utilities Commission

Requested by _____ Date 4/14/77

II. FISCAL DETAIL

Agency Affected Commerce & Economic Development

Program Category Affected Protection

Budget Request Unit(s) Affected Alaska Public Utilities Commission

EXPENDITURES (Thousands of Dollars)

	FY 77	FY 78	FY 79	FY 80	FY 81	FY 82
100 PERSONAL SERVICES		100.8	100.8	100.8	100.8	100.8
200 TRAVEL		5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0
300 CONTRACTUAL		369.1	369.1	369.1	369.1	369.1
400 COMMODITIES		.9	.9	.9	.9	.9
500 EQUIPMENT		3.3				
600 LAND & STRUCTURES						
700 GRANTS, CLAIMS, ETC.						
TOTAL		479.1	475.8	475.8	475.8	475.8

FUNDING (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND		479.1	475.8	475.8	475.8	475.8
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER (Specify)						

POSITIONS

FULL TIME		3	3	3	3	3
PART TIME						
TEMPORARY						

III. ANALYSIS (See Fiscal Note Preparation Instructions, Section III)

see attachment

IV. DATE April 29, 1977

PREPARED BY *Barbara J. Gues*

AGENCY Alaska Public Utilities Commission

PHONE 272-1487

Original: Legislative Finance

cc: Budget and Management

Prime Sponsor (First Legislator Named)

100 PERSONAL SERVICES

<u>Attorney IV - R24--Step E</u>			
Salary	\$ 42,876		
Benefits @ 25.5%	<u>10,933</u>		\$ 53,809
<u>Utility Financial Analyst III - R18</u>			
Salary	23,796		
Benefits @ 25.5%	<u>6,068</u>		29,864
<u>Secretary I - R 10</u>			
Salary	13,644		
Benefits @ 25.5%	<u>3,479</u>		<u>17,123</u>
			\$100,796

200 TRAVEL

<u>Attorney and/or Utility Financial Analyst</u>			
Out-of-town hearings, transportation @ \$150 per trip			
x 15 trips		2,250	
Out-of-town hearings, per diem @ \$125 per trip x 15 trips		1,875	
Program Travel in-State and/or out-of-State, transportation		500	
Program Travel in-State and/or out-of-state, per diem		<u>375</u>	
			5,000

300 CONTRACTUAL

<u>Telephone</u>			
Installation, 3 telephones		75	
Monthly charge \$20 x 12 mos. x 3 employees		720	
Long distance calls, Attorney and U.F.A., est. \$80/mo.		960	
<u>Office Space</u>			
Attorney - 252 sq. ft. @ 55¢/sq. ft. = \$138.60 x 12 mos.		1,663	
U.F.A. III and Secretary I - 126 sq. ft. each = 252 sq. ft. @ 55¢/sq. ft. = \$138.60 x 12 mos.		<u>1,663</u>	
			5,081

400 COMMODITIES

Stationery, office supplies, books @ \$300 x 3 employees			900
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500 EQUIPMENT

<u>Attorney (already has office desk and chair)</u>			
File Cabinet, 4-dr., legal with lock	\$220		
Table	120		
Bookcase	140		
2 Side Chairs @ \$30	<u>60</u>		540
<u>U.F.A. III</u>			
Desk, Executive	275		
Chair, Executive	150		
Bookcase	140		
File Cabinet, 4-dr., legal, with lock	220		
Calculator	600		
2 Side Chairs @ \$30	<u>60</u>		1,445
<u>Secretary I</u>			
Typewriter	850		
Desk, Secretarial	360		
Chair, Typist	<u>120</u>		<u>1,330</u>
			3,315

GRAND TOTAL \$115,092