

**LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD**  
**Austin, Texas**

**FISCAL NOTE, 78TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION**

**April 8, 2003**

**TO:** Honorable Phil King, Chair, House Committee on Regulated Industries

**FROM:** John Keel, Director, Legislative Budget Board

**IN RE: HB2615** by Turner (Relating to the reimbursement of expenses in ratemaking proceedings.),  
**As Introduced**

**No fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.**

The bill would authorize the governing body of a municipality to engage experts to assist the governing body with litigation in a ratemaking proceeding for an affiliated retail electric provider before the governing body, a regulatory authority, or a court. Under current statute, a municipality may engage experts only in a ratemaking proceeding of an electric utility. An affiliated retail electric provider in a ratemaking proceeding would be required to reimburse the municipality for the reasonable cost of the services, the same as is currently required of an electric utility.

The bill would take effect immediately if it receives a two-thirds vote in each house; otherwise, it would take effect September 1, 2003.

**Local Government Impact**

No significant fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

**Source Agencies:** 473 Public Utility Commission of Texas, 475 Office of Public Utility Counsel

**LBB Staff:** JK, JRO, DLBa