

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 82ND LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

March 21, 2011

TO: Honorable Byron Cook, Chair, House Committee on State Affairs

FROM: John S O'Brien, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: HB1801 by Menendez (Relating to notice of utility rate increases.), **As Introduced**

No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

The bill would change the requirement for a natural gas utility to provide notice of certain rate increases via newspaper publication to an optional form of notice, and it would create a new option for a natural gas utility to provide notice of a rate increase via email. Currently, there is an exception to the publication requirement for municipalities under 2,500 population. According to the Railroad Commission gas utilities are currently required to provide four weeks of newspaper notice of rate increases affecting any municipality with a population of 2,500 or more, without exception. Upon passage of the bill, published notice of the rate increase would become optional for entities serving such municipalities.

The bill's passage is not expected to result in any fiscal implications to the Railroad Commission.

Local Government Impact

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

Source Agencies: 455 Railroad Commission

LBB Staff: JOB, KJG, TL