

**Introduced by Senator Hueso**

February 27, 2015

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An act to amend Section 1904 of the Public Utilities Code, relating to the Public Utilities Commission.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 631, as introduced, Hueso. Public Utilities Commission: fees.

Under existing law, the Public Utilities Commission has regulatory authority over public utilities. Existing law allows the commission to charge and collect a fee of \$75 for filing each application for a certificate of public convenience and necessity, or for the mortgage, lease, transfer, or assignment of a certificate.

This bill would instead require the fee to not exceed the reasonable costs to the commission for filing these applications. The bill would authorize the fee in an amount not to exceed \$500 and would authorize the commission to adjust this fee based on the Consumer Price Index.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 1904 of the Public Utilities Code is  
2 amended to read:  
3 1904. The commission shall also charge and collect the  
4 following fees:  
5 (a) Except as otherwise provided in Section 1036 for filing each  
6 application for a certificate of public convenience and necessity,  
7 or for the mortgage, lease, transfer, or assignment thereof,  
8 ~~seventy-five dollars (\$75).~~ *an amount not to exceed five hundred*

1 (\$500). The commission may adjust this fee based on the Consumer  
2 Price Index. The fee charged and collected pursuant to this  
3 subdivision shall not exceed the reasonable costs to the commission  
4 for filing the application.

5 (b) For a certificate authorizing an issue of bonds, notes, or  
6 other evidences of indebtedness, two dollars (\$2) for each one  
7 thousand dollars (\$1,000) of the face value of the authorized issue  
8 or fraction thereof up to one million dollars (\$1,000,000), one  
9 dollar (\$1) for each one thousand dollars (\$1,000) over one million  
10 dollars (\$1,000,000) and up to ten million dollars (\$10,000,000),  
11 and fifty cents (\$0.50) for each one thousand dollars (\$1,000) over  
12 ten million dollars (\$10,000,000), with a minimum fee in any case  
13 of fifty dollars (\$50). No fee need be paid on such portion of any  
14 such issue as may be used to guarantee, take over, refund,  
15 discharge, or retire any stock, bond, note or other evidence of  
16 indebtedness on which a fee has theretofore been paid to the  
17 commission. If the commission modified the amount of the issue  
18 requested in any case and the applicant thereupon elects not to  
19 avail itself of the commission's authorization, no fee shall be paid,  
20 and if such fee is paid prior to the issuance of such certificate by  
21 the commission, such fee shall be returned.