

HB 2196 -- OFFICE OF PUBLIC COUNSEL FUND

SPONSOR: Curtis

This bill creates the Office of Public Counsel Fund which allows the office to be funded by a maximum of one-eighth of 1% of total gross intrastate operating revenues of regulated utilities. The Missouri Public Service Commission will collect estimates of expenses for a fiscal year from the Office of Public Counsel and the estimates will include expenses by type of utility regulated including gas, water, sewer, electric, telephone, telegraph, and other public utilities and miscellaneous expenses. The commission will use a formula based on a proportion of utility type revenue to total revenue to attribute miscellaneous expenses and create a statement of assessment for each type of utility. Deadlines for payment by utilities and options for payment over time are specified in the bill. In order to allow the calculation of assessment, each public utility regulated by the commission will provide information on its revenues by March 31 of each year or the commission will estimate revenues itself. Procedures for document cost for revenue estimates are specified in the bill.