

Bill No. HB 925
Amendment No. ____

<u>Senate</u>	CHAMBER ACTION	<u>House</u>
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Senators Cowin, Kurth, Brown-Waite and Mitchell moved the following amendment:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)
Delete everything after the enacting clause

and insert:

Section 1. (1) In recognition of the fact that a portion of the state's population is served by investor-owned water and wastewater utilities, the Legislature finds that the need to encourage economic and prudent water resource planning by such utilities in a manner that is consistent with the state's environmental laws and in the long-term best interest of consumers should be subjected to a fact finding and review process. Therefore, the investor-owned water and wastewater utility study panel is established to analyze and determine the facts pertaining to:

(a) The regulatory treatment of investor-owned water and wastewater utilities in the provision of utility infrastructure, including margin reserve.

(b) The cost and consistency of environmental law and

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1 policy with regulatory treatment of these utilities.

2 (c) The estimated potential rate impact of any
3 recommended changes.

4 (2) The study panel shall be composed of 13 members as
5 follows: one member of the Senate and one member of the House
6 of Representatives, appointed by each respective house; one
7 member of the Public Service Commission to be appointed by the
8 Chair of the Public Service Commission; the Public Counsel or
9 his or her designee; two representatives of the investor-owned
10 water and wastewater utilities to be appointed by the Florida
11 Waterworks Association; one representative of the American
12 Association of Retired Persons to be appointed by the
13 Governor; one representative from an investor-owned water and
14 wastewater utility staff to be appointed by the Florida
15 Waterworks Association; one representative from a Water
16 Management District to be appointed by the Governor; one
17 assistant Attorney General from The Special Projects Office
18 who is familiar with water and wastewater issues to be
19 appointed by the Attorney General; one representative from the
20 Department of Environmental Protection to be appointed by the
21 Secretary of that agency; one representative from a county
22 that has assumed responsibility for regulating water and
23 wastewater utilities under section 367.081, Florida Statutes,
24 to be appointed by the President of the Senate; and one
25 representative from a governmentally owned water and
26 wastewater utility to be appointed by the Speaker of the House
27 of Representatives.

28 (3) The study panel shall hold at least three public
29 hearings, two of which shall be outside Tallahassee, and shall
30 seek public comment and input. The members of the study panel
31 are entitled to reimbursement for travel and per diem expenses

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1 incurred in the performance of their duties, as provided under
2 section 112.061, Florida Statutes. The panel shall obtain
3 staff assistance from the Policy and Industry Structure Bureau
4 of the Public Service Commission. All costs of the panel,
5 including expense reimbursement, shall be paid from the budget
6 of the Public Service Commission.

7 (4) The study panel shall report to the Governor, the
8 President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of
9 Representatives on its findings and any recommendations for
10 proposed legislation no later than December 31, 1999.

11 Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a
12 law.

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15 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

16 And the title is amended as follows:

17 Delete everything before the enacting clause

18
19

and insert:

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A bill to be entitled

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An act relating to the Public Service

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Commission; providing for a study commission to

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review the need for rate adjustment

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legislation, to analyze the infrastructure and

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future growth needs of water and wastewater

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utilities, to review the economic impact to

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consumers of possible policy changes, and to

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recommend legislation; providing an effective

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date.

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