

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to public utilities; creating
3 s. 180.136, F.S.; requiring notice of proposed
4 increases in certain water or sewer utility
5 service rates, charges, or fees; specifying
6 such notice is in addition to other notice and
7 meeting requirements; amending s. 367.171,
8 F.S.; requiring application of certain
9 provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act
10 to certain county rate proceedings; providing
11 an effective date.

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13 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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15 Section 1. Section 180.136, Florida Statutes, is
16 created to read:

17 180.136 Water or sewer utilities; notice.--Before a
18 local government water or sewer utility increases any rate,
19 charge, or fee for water or sewer utility service, the utility
20 shall provide notice of the proposed increase to each customer
21 of the utility through the utility's billing process. The
22 notice shall state the date, time, and place of the meeting of
23 the governing board of the local government at which such
24 increase will be considered. The notice required in this
25 section is in addition to any notice and public meeting
26 requirements for ordinance adoption as provided by general
27 law.

28 Section 2. Subsection (8) of section 367.171, Florida
29 Statutes, is amended to read:

30 367.171 Effectiveness of this chapter.--
31

1 (8) Each county which is excluded from the provisions
2 of this chapter shall regulate the rates of all utilities in
3 that county which would otherwise be subject to regulation by
4 the commission pursuant to s. 367.081(1), (2), (3), and (6).
5 The county shall not regulate the rates or charges of any
6 system or facility which would otherwise be exempt from
7 commission regulation pursuant to s. 367.022(2). For this
8 purpose the county or its agency shall proceed as though the
9 county or agency is the commission. The provisions of ss.
10 120.569 and 120.57 shall apply to all proceedings conducted by
11 a county or an agency of the county under the authority of
12 this chapter.

13 Section 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a
14 law.