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Fiscal Note

Drafting Number:	LLS 23-0863	Date:	March 21, 2023
Prime Sponsors:	Sen. Winter F.; Rodriguez	Bill Status:	Senate Transportation & Energy
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Bill Topic: PUC ADMINISTRATIVE FEE SETTING TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

Summary of Fiscal Impact:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State Revenue	<input type="checkbox"/> TABOR Refund
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State Expenditure	<input type="checkbox"/> Local Government
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State Transfer	<input type="checkbox"/> Statutory Public Entity

The bill authorizes the Public Utilities Commission to set fees for motor carriers and transportation network companies administratively. It minimally increases state workload in FY 2023-24, and potentially impacts future fund transfers and fee revenue.

Appropriation Summary: No appropriation is required.

Fiscal Note Status: The fiscal note reflects the introduced bill.

Summary of Legislation

Under current law, revenue accrues to the Motor Carrier Fund from the registration of certain motor carriers pursuant to the Unified Carrier Registration System, and revenue above the 10 percent limit of uncommitted reserves each year is transferred to the Motor Carrier Safety Fund. In addition, some fee levels for motor carriers and transportation network companies are specified in statute. The bill increases the limit of uncommitted reserves to 16.5 percent, repeals existing statutory fees, and gives the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) authority to set fees on motor carriers and transportation network companies administratively.

Background

The Motor Carrier Fund and the Motor Carrier Safety Fund are subject to annual appropriation by the General Assembly. The Motor Carrier Fund pays for the PUC's administrative expenses to supervise and regulate motor carriers. The Motor Carrier Safety Fund covers costs to advance highway safety relating to commercial carrier operations, in compliance with Colorado State Patrol rules. The Transportation Network Company Fund is continuously appropriated to the PUC for its costs to supervise and regulate these companies.

State Revenue

If the PUC raises or decreases fees, fee revenue will increase or decrease, respectively. As the PUC is not currently expected to update fees, the fiscal note anticipates no revenue impact in the short-term.

State Transfers

Increasing the limit of uncommitted reserves for the Motor Carrier Fund may result in fewer transfers to the Motor Carrier Safety Fund.

State Expenditures

The bill increases workload in the PUC in the Department of Regulatory Agencies to conduct rulemaking to set fees. This rulemaking, conducted with support from the Department of Law, can be accommodated during the normal course of business and no change in appropriations is required.

Effective Date

The bill takes effect upon signature of the Governor, or upon becoming law without his signature.

State and Local Government Contacts

Information Technology

Law

Regulatory Agencies