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SENATE BILL NO. 374
INTRODUCED BY DeVore
By Request

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT TO REQUIRE A FEE FOR PUBLIC UTILITIES FILING FOR RATE INCREASES."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

Section 1. There is a new R.C.M. section numbered 70-113.1 that reads as follows:

70-113.1. Rate change filing fee. (1) A public utility upon filing with the commission an application for an increase in rates charged to consumers shall deposit with the state treasurer a filing fee determined according to the following schedule:

(a) Proposed increase	Filing fee
Under \$500,000	-0-
\$500,000 - \$750,000	\$3,125
\$750,000 - \$1,000,000	\$4,375

(b) The proposed increase shall include such additional revenues as are generated by the rate change during the 1-year period following the date such rates are projected to go into effect.

(c) For proposed increases in excess of \$1 million, multiples and combinations of the above schedule shall be used.

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(d) For rate change filings for which a fee is set by a specific statute, the above schedule does not apply.

-End-

STATE OF MONTANA

REQUEST NO. 347-77

FISCAL NOTE

Form BD-15

In compliance with a written request received February 3, 1977, 19 _____, there is hereby submitted a Fiscal Note for Senate Bill 374 pursuant to Chapter 53, Laws of Montana, 1965 - Thirty-Ninth Legislative Assembly.

Background information used in developing this Fiscal Note is available from the Office of Budget and Program Planning, to members of the Legislature upon request.

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION:

An act to require a fee for public utilities filing for net increases.

ASSUMPTIONS:

- 1. The current rate of inflation will continue at least through the 1979 biennium.
- 2. The requests for rate increases will be approximately the same as the 1977 biennium.

FISCAL IMPACT:

	<u>FY 78</u>	<u>FY 79</u>
Additional revenue due to proposed legislation	<u>\$250,000</u>	<u>\$250,000</u>

TECHNICAL NOTE:

The bill does not stipulate into which treasury fund the additional receipts are to be deposited.

Richard L. Ziegler
BUDGET DIRECTOR

Office of Budget and Program Planning

Date: 2-8-77