BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center 76R13383 DWS-F

S.B. 1883 By: Harris Natural Resources 4/26/1999 As Filed

DIGEST

Currently, some confusion exists over whether municipal franchise fees could be included in the rates charged to a state agency by a utility. In 1993, the 73rd Legislature passed S.B. 83, which established what amounts could be included in the rates a utility could charge a state agency. S.B. 1883 would provide that municipal fees were intended to be included in the rates a utility could charge a state agency.

PURPOSE

As proposed, S.B. 1883 clarifies language regarding municipal fees included in the rates a utility could charge a state agency.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

This bill does not grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, institution, or agency.

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Amends Section 104.202, Utilities Code, by adding Subsection (c), to provide that a gross receipts assessment, regulatory assessment, or similar expense of the utility does not include a payment to a municipality under a contract, franchise, or other agreement.

SECTION 2. Emergency clause.

Effective date: upon passage.