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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR:	Hobbs	DATE TYPED:	02/11/00	HB	16/aHGUAC
SHORT TITLE:	Designated Post of Duty for PRC			SB	
				ANALYST:	Valenzuela

APPROPRIATION

Appropriation Contained		Estimated Additional Impact		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY00	FY01	FY00	FY01		
	NFI		NFI		

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Duplicates/Conflicts with/Companion to/Relates to House Bill 353.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Public Regulation Commission (PRC)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of HGUAC Amendment

As amended by the Government and Urban Affairs Committee, House Bill 16 allows Public Utilities Regulation Commissioners to collect mileage and per diem "while on official business, regardless of the destination." The amendment also requires the Commissioners to adopt rules specifying which activities are considered "official" business.

Commissioners can collect mileage and per diem on any trip while on "official business," including trip to cities where their respective residences are located.

Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 16 designates Santa Fe as the post of duty for each Commissioner and prohibits any Commissioner from receiving reimbursement for per diem and mileage between either their permanent or temporary residence and the designated post of duty.

Significant Issues

Last year, the Public Regulation Commissioners attempted to designate their post of duty as their city of residence, within their districts. The purpose of the vote was to allow each of the commissioners to receive mileage and per diem for travel to and from their home districts. The Legislature did not appropriate funding for this action, and continues not to appropriate funding for these costs.

CONFLICT/DUPLICATION/COMPANIONSHIP/RELATIONSHIP

House Bill 16 relates to House Bill 353, which would create a new division of the PRC, the Office of the Commissioners. The creation of the division affords the Legislature the ability to appropriate funding specifically to the Commissioners for travel costs. Consequently, the Legislature can express its legislative intent, through appropriation, to the Commissioners on this issue by not appropriating funding for per diem and mileage.

MFV/gm:sb