To: Public Utilities

By: Representatives White, Sykes

HOUSE BILL NO. 882

AN ACT TO REENACT SECTIONS 77-1-1, 77-1-3, 77-1-5, 77-1-6,

77-1-11, 77-1-15, 77-1-17, 77-1-19, 77-1-21, 77-1-25, 77-1-27, 77-1-29, 77-1-31, 77-1-33, 77-1-35, 77-1-37, 77-1-39, 77-1-41, 77-1-43, 77-1-47 AND 77-1-49, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, WHICH 5 CREATE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION AND PRESCRIBE ITS POWERS AND 6 DUTIES; TO AMEND SECTION 77-1-51, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO 7 EXTEND THE DATE OF THE REPEALER ON THOSE REENACTED SECTIONS; TO AMEND SECTION 77-1-55, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO EXTEND THE 8 9 DATE OF THE REPEALER ON THE AUTHORITY OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE 10 COMMISSION AND THE PUBLIC UTILITIES STAFF TO HIRE ATTORNEYS AND 11 CONSULTANTS FOR CERTAIN PROCEEDINGS; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES. 12 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI: 13 SECTION 1. Section 77-1-1, Mississippi Code of 1972, is reenacted as follows: 14 15 77-1-1. A public service commission, hereinafter referred to in this chapter as the commission, is hereby created, consisting 16 of three (3) members, one (1) to be elected from each of the three 17 18 (3) Supreme Court districts by the qualified electors of such district. Elections for such officers shall be held in the 19 general election in November 1959, and every four (4) years 20 thereafter, and the terms of office of the three (3) commissioners 21

- 22 elected at the general election in November 1959 shall expire on
- 23 December 31, 1963.
- The commissioners shall each receive a yearly salary fixed by
- 25 the Legislature, payable monthly.
- The commissioners shall each possess the qualifications
- 27 prescribed for the Secretary of State. The commissioners shall
- 28 not operate, own any stock in, or be in the employment of any
- 29 common or contract carrier by motor vehicle, telephone company,
- 30 gas or electric utility company, or any other public utility that
- 31 shall come under their jurisdiction or supervision.
- 32 **SECTION 2.** Section 77-1-3, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 33 reenacted as follows:
- 34 77-1-3. The commission shall have a seal, having around the
- 35 margin the words "Mississippi Public Service Commission," and in
- 36 the center such device as it may select. The acts of the
- 37 commission shall be authenticated by its seal.
- 38 **SECTION 3.** Section 77-1-5, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 39 reenacted as follows:
- 40 77-1-5. The commission shall keep an office in the City of
- 41 Jackson, which shall be kept open Monday through Friday of each
- 42 week for eight (8) hours each day. The commission shall meet at
- 43 its office on the first Tuesday of each month and at such other
- 44 times and places as its duties may require. The commission may
- 45 sit from day to day and from time to time, and any meeting may be
- 46 pretermitted not exceeding two (2) in any year.

- The members of the commission shall devote their entire time
- 48 to the performance of their official duties on every business day,
- 49 except on the legal holidays enumerated in Section 3-3-7,
- 50 Mississippi Code of 1972. However, official acts of the
- 51 commission done on legal holidays shall be valid.
- The commission shall keep regular minutes of its proceedings,
- 53 which shall be a public record, and all orders, findings and acts
- 54 of the commission shall be entered on the minutes.
- Two (2) members of the commission shall be a quorum.
- SECTION 4. Section 77-1-6, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 57 reenacted as follows:
- 58 77-1-6. There is hereby established in the State Treasury a
- 59 special fund to be known as the "Public Service Commission
- 60 Regulation Fund." Such fund shall be the sole fund of the
- 61 commission for all monies collected and deposited to the credit of
- 62 or appropriated to the commission. The fund shall be administered
- 63 as provided in this title and shall be audited annually by the
- 64 State Auditor.
- From and after July 1, 2016, the expenses of this agency
- 66 shall be defrayed by appropriation from the State General Fund and
- 67 all user charges and fees authorized under this section shall be
- 68 deposited into the State General Fund as authorized by law and as
- 69 determined by the State Fiscal Officer.



- From and after July 1, 2016, no state agency shall charge another state agency a fee, assessment, rent or other charge for services or resources received by authority of this section.
- 73 **SECTION 5.** Section 77-1-11, Mississippi Code of 1972, is 74 reenacted as follows:
- 75 77-1-11. (1) It shall be unlawful for any public service
 76 commissioner, any candidate for public service commissioner, or
 77 any employee of the Public Service Commission or Public Utilities
 78 Staff to knowingly accept any gift, pass, money, campaign
 79 contribution or any emolument or other pecuniary benefit
 80 whatsoever, either directly or indirectly, from any person
 81 interested as owner, agent or representative, or from any person
- 82 acting in any respect for such owner, agent or representative of
- 83 any common or contract carrier by motor vehicle, telephone
- 84 company, gas or electric utility company, or any other public
- 85 utility that shall come under the jurisdiction or supervision of
- 86 the Public Service Commission. Any person found guilty of
- 87 violating the provisions of this subsection shall immediately
- 88 forfeit his or her office or position and shall be fined not less
- 89 than Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00), imprisoned in the State
- 90 Penitentiary for not less than one (1) year, or both.
- 91 (2) It shall be unlawful for any person interested as owner,
- 92 agent or representative, or any person acting in any respect for
- 93 such owner, agent or representative of any common or contract
- 94 carrier by motor vehicle, telephone company, gas or electric

- 95 utility, or any other public utility that shall come under the
- 96 jurisdiction or supervision of the Public Service Commission to
- 97 offer any gift, pass, money, campaign contribution or any
- 98 emolument or other pecuniary benefit whatsoever to any public
- 99 service commissioner, any candidate for public service
- 100 commissioner or any employee of the Public Service Commission or
- 101 Public Utilities Staff. Any party found guilty of violating the
- 102 provisions of this subsection shall be fined not less than Five
- 103 Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00), or imprisoned in the State
- 104 Penitentiary for not less than one (1) year, or both.
- 105 (3) For purposes of this section, the term "emolument" shall
- 106 include salary, donations, contributions, loans, stock tips,
- 107 vacations, trips, honorarium, directorships or consulting posts.
- 108 Expenses associated with social occasions afforded public servants
- 109 shall not be deemed a gift, emolument or other pecuniary benefit
- as defined in Section 25-4-103(k), Mississippi Code of 1972.
- 111 (4) For purposes of this section, a person who is a member
- of a water, gas, electric or other cooperative association
- 113 regulated by the Public Service Commission shall not, by virtue of
- 114 such membership, be deemed an owner, agent or representative of
- 115 such association unless such person is acting in any respect for
- 116 or as an owner, agent or representative of such association; nor
- 117 shall a person who owns less than one-half of one percent (1/2) of
- 118 1%) in stock, the value thereof not to exceed Ten Thousand Dollars
- 119 (\$10,000.00), of any public utility that is regulated by the

- 120 Public Service Commission, or of any holding company of such
- 121 public utility, by virtue of such ownership, be deemed an owner,
- 122 agent or representative of such public utility unless such person
- 123 is acting in any respect for or as an owner, agent or
- 124 representative of such public utility.
- 125 **SECTION 6.** Section 77-1-15, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 126 reenacted as follows:
- 127 77-1-15. (1) There shall be an executive secretary of the
- 128 commission, hereinafter referred to in this chapter as the
- 129 secretary, to be appointed by the commission, by and with the
- 130 advice and consent of the Senate, for the term of the
- 131 commissioners. The secretary must have the same qualifications as
- 132 the commissioners and shall be subject to the same
- 133 disqualifications and to like penalties, except that he shall not
- 134 be liable to impeachment. He shall receive a salary fixed by the
- 135 Legislature. He shall take the oath of office and shall be
- 136 removable at the pleasure of the commission, which may fill any
- 137 vacancy until the Senate confirms a successor. The secretary
- 138 shall make bond as provided for other state officers, in the sum
- of Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00), conditioned upon the
- 140 faithful performance of the duties of his office.
- 141 (2) The secretary shall collect all fees and penalties
- 142 collected by or paid to the commission, and shall cover the same
- 143 into the State Treasury; and all fees and penalties collected

- 144 under the Mississippi Motor Carrier Regulatory Law of 1938 shall
- 145 be covered into the Public Service Commission Regulation Fund.
- 146 (3) The secretary of the commission shall be the custodian
- 147 of all records, documents, and the seal of the commission. He
- 148 shall issue all citations, subpoenas and other rightful orders and
- 149 documents, and perform all other duties usually required of such
- 150 officer, and as required by the commission.
- 151 (4) It shall be the duty and responsibility of the secretary
- 152 to supervise and manage the offices and staff of the Public
- 153 Service Commission and formulate written policies and procedures
- 154 for the effective and efficient operation of the office and
- 155 present these policies and procedures to the board for
- 156 promulgation.
- 157 (5) From and after July 1, 2016, the expenses of this agency
- 158 shall be defrayed by appropriation from the State General Fund and
- 159 all user charges and fees authorized under this section shall be
- 160 deposited into the State General Fund as authorized by law.
- 161 (6) From and after July 1, 2016, no state agency shall
- 162 charge another state agency a fee, assessment, rent or other
- 163 charge for services or resources received by authority of this
- 164 section.
- SECTION 7. Section 77-1-17, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 166 reenacted as follows:
- 167 77-1-17. The commission is hereby authorized to employ for
- 168 the term of the commissioners a competent rate expert at a salary

169	fixed by the commission, and an assistant rate expert at a salary
170	fixed by the commission, for the collection of data and evidence
171	for the use of the state in protecting the interest of the state
172	involving duties and obligations of all common carriers, all
173	common carriers by motor vehicle, all restricted common carriers
174	by motor vehicle, and all contract carriers by motor vehicle, and
175	for the establishment of proof in litigation now pending or which
176	may hereafter be instituted.
177	The rate expert and his assistant shall make all needed

The rate expert and his assistant shall make all needed investigations affecting rates and rate making and shall perform such other duties as the commission may find necessary for them to do in the interest of the state.

Said duties shall also include the checking and investigating of the filing of rate schedules with the commission, and making of reports to the commission respecting tariffs filed by any of the above-mentioned carriers with the commission involving the increase of any rates for movements within the State of Mississippi, and the general checking and reports to the commission affecting any rates increased from points without the State of Mississippi to points within the State of Mississippi, and from points in the State of Mississippi to points without the State of Mississippi. Said rate experts may be discharged by the commission for incompetency or other good cause, but they shall have notice and an opportunity to be heard in respect to any charge for removal.

- 194 **SECTION 8.** Section 77-1-19, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 195 reenacted as follows:
- 77-1-19. The commission is authorized to employ the
- 197 following additional employees to carry out and enforce the
- 198 provisions of the Motor Carrier Regulatory Law of 1938:
- 199 (a) An assistant secretary and two (2)
- 200 stenographer-clerks;
- 201 (b) One (1) combined bookkeeper and stenographer;
- 202 (c) One (1) stenographer competent to serve as a
- 203 reporter of evidence taken before the commission; and
- 204 (d) Twelve (12) additional employees, which includes
- 205 seven (7) employees to be transferred from the utility department
- 206 to the motor carrier department to perform the duties of the
- 207 commission imposed upon it by the provisions of said Motor Carrier
- 208 Regulatory Law.
- SECTION 9. Section 77-1-21, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 210 reenacted as follows:
- 211 77-1-21. (1) For the purpose of enforcing the provisions of
- 212 the Mississippi Motor Carrier Regulatory Law of 1938, the
- 213 Mississippi Department of Transportation is authorized to employ,
- 214 in addition to personnel already employed by the department, one
- 215 (1) chief enforcement officer and twenty-one (21) inspectors, who
- 216 shall be under the management of the department. The chief
- 217 enforcement officer and the inspectors shall devote their full
- 218 time to the performance of their duties and shall take an oath

219	faithfully to perform the duties of their position. The
220	department shall require bonds to be carried on such employees as
221	the department may deem necessary, the cost thereof to be paid by
222	the department. The chief enforcement officer and inspectors
223	shall be qualified by experience and training in law enforcement
224	or investigative work, and shall attend and satisfactorily
225	complete an appropriate course of instruction established by the
226	Commissioner of Public Safety at the Law Enforcement Officers
227	Training Academy. The chief enforcement officer and the
228	inspectors referred to in this section shall be selected after ar
229	examination as to physical and mental fitness. Such employees
230	shall be citizens of the United States and the State of
231	Mississippi, and of good moral character. All such members of
232	staff shall be appointed by the Mississippi Department of
233	Transportation and shall be subject to removal at any time by the
234	department.

(2) The Public Service Commission shall transfer all 235 236 employees, equipment, inventory and resources of the commission 237 employed and used to enforce the Motor Carrier Regulatory Law of 238 1938 to the Mississippi Department of Transportation on July 1, 239 2004. The transfer of personnel shall be commensurate with the 240 number and classification of positions allocated to that law 241 enforcement. The transfer also shall include direct support, 242 clerical, data processing and communications positions allocated 243 to that law enforcement.

244	(3) The Public Service Commission shall transfer to the
245	Mississippi Department of Transportation each year the amount of
246	funds necessary to support the law enforcement functions being
247	performed for the commission by the department, as specified in
248	the appropriation bill for the Public Service Commission.

- (4) Any reference in any statute, rule or regulation to law enforcement duties being performed by the Public Service

 Commission shall be construed to mean law enforcement duties being performed for the commission by the Mississippi Department of Transportation.
- **SECTION 10.** Section 77-1-25, Mississippi Code of 1972, is 255 reenacted as follows:
 - 77-1-25. No member of the staff of the commission, or any other person, shall use uniforms, material, or equipment of the commission for private or political purposes. Members of the staff of the commission may be candidates for political office but must take a leave of absence to do so. Members of the staff of the commission may take part in political campaigns other than campaigns for Public Service Commission but may not solicit or receive campaign contributions from regulated utilities. Anyone violating the provisions of this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, shall be punished as provided by law and shall be dismissed from the staff of the commission.
- SECTION 11. Section 77-1-27, Mississippi Code of 1972, is reenacted as follows:

269	77-1-27. All commission employees provided for in this
270	chapter, and the reasonable and necessary expenses of the
271	administration of the duties imposed on the commission by the
272	Motor Carrier Regulatory Law of 1938, shall be paid out of the
273	appropriations made to defray the expenses of the commission, upon
274	requisitions and warrants in the same manner provided by law for
275	the disbursements of appropriations for the commission. An
276	itemized account shall be kept of all receipts and expenditures
277	and shall be reported to the Legislature by the commission.
278	SECTION 12. Section 77-1-29, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
279	reenacted as follows:
280	77-1-29. On or before the twentieth day of each calendar
281	month, the commission shall pay into the State Treasury to the
282	account of the "Public Service Commission Regulation Fund" all
283	monies collected by it during the preceding calendar month,
284	showing from whom collected, when collected and for what purposes
285	collected. All disbursements made by the commission or from the
286	regulation fund for any purposes, other than for salaries provided
287	by law, shall be supported by a detailed and itemized statement
288	approved by the commission for commission disbursements. The
289	commission shall not expend funds from the "Public Service
290	Commission Regulation Fund" to employ personnel whose services
291	would duplicate services provided by any employee of the Public

Utilities Staff.

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293	From and after July 1, 2016, the expenses of this agency
294	shall be defrayed by appropriation from the State General Fund and
295	all user charges and fees authorized under this section shall be
296	deposited into the State General Fund as authorized by law.
297	From and after July 1, 2016, no state agency shall charge
298	another state agency a fee, assessment, rent or other charge for
299	services or resources received by authority of this section.
300	SECTION 13. Section 77-1-31, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
301	reenacted as follows:
302	77-1-31. The commission shall keep a docket of petitions and
303	complaints, which shall be entered in regular order. The docket
304	shall be called at each regular meeting of the board, and the
305	cases thereon disposed of, or, if necessary, continued until the
306	next meeting.
307	SECTION 14. Section 77-1-33, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
308	reenacted as follows:
309	77-1-33. In any matter of inquiry pending before the
310	commission or any member thereof, subpoenas for witnesses, and
311	subpoenas duces tecum, may be issued by the secretary, under seal,
312	or by any member without the seal, and shall be executed and
313	returned by any sheriff, constable, or marshal, under the like
314	penalties of law for failure to execute and return the process of

the circuit court. If any person duly summoned to appear and

testify before the commission, or before any one or more of the

commissioners, shall fail or refuse to appear and testify, or to

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- 318 bring and produce, as commanded, any book, paper, or document, 319 without a lawful excuse, or shall refuse to answer any proper 320 question propounded to him by the commission or any of the 321 commissioners, or if any person shall obstruct the commission, or 322 one or more of the commissioners in the discharge of duty, or 323 shall conduct himself in a rude, disrespectful, or disorderly 324 manner before the commission deliberating in the discharge of 325 duty, such witness or person shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, 326 and, upon conviction, shall be fined not more than One Thousand 327 Dollars (\$1,000.00), or be imprisoned in the county jail for a
- 329 **SECTION 15.** Section 77-1-35, Mississippi Code of 1972, is 330 reenacted as follows:

period not exceeding six (6) months, or both.

- 331 The several members of the commission and the secretary may, in the discharge of their duties, administer oaths 332 333 and take affidavits. The commission and each member thereof may 334 examine witnesses under oath in all matters coming before them. If any person shall testify falsely, or make any false affidavit 335 336 or oath before the commission, or before any of the commissioners, 337 or before any officer, to any matter coming before the commission, 338 he shall be guilty of perjury, and, upon conviction, shall be 339 punished according to law.
- 340 **SECTION 16.** Section 77-1-37, Mississippi Code of 1972, is 341 reenacted as follows:

342 77-1-37. Witnesses summoned to appear before the commission
343 shall be entitled to the same per diem and mileage as witnesses
344 attending the circuit court. Witnesses summoned by the commission
345 on its behalf shall be paid as are other expenditures of the
346 commission, upon the certificate of the commission showing the
347 amount to which such witness may be entitled. Witnesses summoned
348 for any carrier shall be paid by it.

SECTION 17. Section 77-1-39, Mississippi Code of 1972, is 350 reenacted as follows:

77-1-39. In all cases where the testimony of witnesses is given orally before the commission any interested party or the commission shall have the right to have said testimony taken down and transcribed by a stenographer or court reporter, who is not an employee of the commission, to be agreed upon by the parties or appointed by the commission. The stenographer or court reporter so employed shall be duly sworn and his or her certificate that the transcript of such evidence is correct together with the official certificate of any one (1) of the commissioners that he has read the same and that it is in his opinion correct shall entitle such transcript or a certified copy thereof to be received in evidence on any appeal or in any court in this state subject only to any objection that the same is not relevant or material. The stenographer or court reporter shall be paid in accordance with the provisions of Section 9-13-33. The commission shall have

the right to require any party demanding an official stenographer to guarantee or prepay the costs thereof in all proper cases.

368 **SECTION 18.** Section 77-1-41, Mississippi Code of 1972, is reenacted as follows:

77-1-41. All findings of the commission and the 370 371 determination of every matter by it shall be made in writing and 372 placed upon its minutes. Proof thereof shall be made by a copy of 373 the same duly certified by the secretary under the seal of the 374 commission. Whenever any matter has been determined by the 375 commission, in the course of any proceeding before it the fact of 376 such determination, duly certified, shall be received in all 377 courts and by every officer in civil cases as prima facie evidence 378 that such determination was right and proper. The record of the proceedings of the commission shall be deemed a public record, and 379 380 shall at all reasonable times be subject to the inspection of the 381 public.

382 **SECTION 19.** Section 77-1-43, Mississippi Code of 1972, is reenacted as follows:

77-1-43. (1) The commission may apply to the circuit or chancery court, by proper proceeding, for aid in the enforcement of obedience to its process, and to compel compliance with the law and its lawful orders, decisions, and determinations. Said courts shall have jurisdiction to grant aid and relief in such cases, subject to the right of appeal to the Supreme Court by the party aggrieved. The Attorney General, or district attorney in his

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- 391 district, shall institute such proceedings in the name of the 392 commission.
- 393 Any action for violation of the law, or for the 394 violation of any lawful rule, regulation or order of the 395 commission may be instituted by the commission or by the Attorney 396 General in any court of competent jurisdiction.
- 397 The remedies given by this chapter against all carriers 398 under the supervision of the commission, are cumulative to those 399 now in existence by law.
- SECTION 20. Section 77-1-47, Mississippi Code of 1972, is 400 401 reenacted as follows:

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77-1-47. Appeals from any final finding, order or judgment of the commission shall be taken and perfected by the filing of a bond in the sum of Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) with two (2) sureties, or with a surety company qualified to do business in Mississippi as the surety, conditioned to pay the cost of such appeal. Said bond shall be approved by the chairman or secretary of the commission, or by the judge of the court to which such appeal is taken in case the chairman or secretary of the commission refuses to approve a proper bond tendered to them within the time limited for taking appeals. The commission may grant a supersedeas bond on any appeal, in such penalty and with such surety thereon as it may deem sufficient, and may, during the pendency of any appeal, at any time, require the increase of any such supersedeas bond or additional securities thereon. The judge

- 416 of the Circuit Court of Hinds County may on petition therefor by
- 417 any party entitled to an appeal, presented to him within six (6)
- 418 months of the date of the final finding, order, or judgment of the
- 419 commission appealed from, award a writ of supersedeas to any such
- 420 final finding, order, or judgment of the commission, upon the
- 421 filing of a supersedeas bond in an amount to be fixed by said
- 422 judge. All appeal bonds for the payment of costs, and all
- 423 supersedeas bonds, shall be made payable to the state and may be
- 424 enforced in the name of the state by motion or other legal
- 425 proceedings or remedy in any circuit court of this state having
- 426 jurisdiction of a motion or action on such bond, and the process
- 427 and proceedings thereon shall be as provided by law upon bonds of
- 428 like character required and taken by any court of this state.
- 429 Such circuit court may render and enter like judgments upon such
- 430 bonds as may, by law, be rendered and entered upon bonds of like
- 431 character, and process of execution shall issue upon such
- 432 judgments, and may be levied and executed as provided by law in
- 433 other cases.
- 434 **SECTION 21.** Section 77-1-49, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 435 reenacted as follows:
- 436 77-1-49. The commission shall make a report every year to
- 437 the Legislature of all its acts and doings for the preceding
- 438 fiscal year.
- 439 **SECTION 22.** Section 77-1-51, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 440 amended as follows:

- 441 77-1-51. Sections 77-1-1 through 77-1-49, Mississippi Code
- 442 of 1972, which create the Public Service Commission and prescribe
- 443 its powers and duties, shall stand repealed as of December
- 444 31, * * * 2021.
- 445 **SECTION 23.** Section 77-1-55, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 446 amended as follows:
- 447 77-1-55. (1) The Public Service Commission, with the aid
- 448 and the assistance of the Public Utilities Staff, shall have the
- 449 power to monitor, investigate, and seek relief in any appropriate
- 450 federal forum from all existing or proposed interstate rates,
- 451 charges, allocations and classifications, and all rules and
- 452 practices in relation thereto promulgated and prescribed by or for
- 453 any public utility as defined in Section 77-3-3 (d) (i).
- 454 (2) The Public Service Commission, with the aid and the
- 455 assistance of the Public Utilities Staff, may seek relief from any
- 456 proposed or final decision, order, regulation, rule or law that
- 457 has an impact on any existing or proposed interstate rate, charge,
- 458 allocation or classification.
- 459 (3) For the purpose of this section, the Public Service
- 460 Commission and the Executive Director of the Public Utilities
- 461 Staff may each enter into professional services contracts with one
- 462 or more attorneys or consultants from a competent, qualified and
- 463 independent firm as may be required by the commission or the
- 464 executive director. Costs associated with the professional
- 465 service contracts shall not exceed One Million Five Hundred

- 466 Thousand Dollars (\$1,500,000.00) for each agency with respect to 467 each rate regulated affected utility in any twelve-month period. 468 The consultants or counsel shall submit periodically, but no less 469 frequently than once each calendar quarter, to the executive 470 director or the commission, as applicable, for approval of 471 payment, itemized bills detailing the work performed. 472 executive director or the chairman of the commission, as 473 applicable, shall requisition the applicable public utility to 474 make the requisite payments to such consultants. The commission 475 shall allow the utility to recover both the total costs the 476 utility incurred under this section and the carrying charges for 477 those costs through a rate rider established to recover the costs 478 incurred and carrying charges incurred. Such rider shall include 479 a true-up provision to ensure actual recovery of costs paid or 480 otherwise incurred by the utility.
- SECTION 24. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after July 1, 2018.

This section shall stand repealed from and after July

1, * * * 2021.

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