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**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
COMMITTEE ON
TRANSPORTATION & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
TRUST FUND RE-CREATION ANALYSIS**

BILL #: HB 1737 (PCB TEDA 02-17)
RELATING TO: Florida Public Service Regulatory Trust Fund
SPONSOR(S): Transportation & Economic Development Appropriations and Rep. Johnson
TIED BILL(S):

ORIGINATING COMMITTEE(S)/COUNCIL(S)/COMMITTEE(S) OF REFERENCE:

- (1) TRANSPORTATION AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT APPROPRIATIONS YEAS 14
NAYS 0
 - (2)
 - (3)
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I. SUMMARY:

This legislation re-creates the Florida Public Service Regulatory Trust Fund, FLAIR number 61-2-573, without modification. The Florida Public Service Regulatory Trust Fund is administered by the Florida Public Service Regulatory Commission.

II. SUBSTANTIVE ANALYSIS:

A. PRESENT SITUATION:

1. MAJOR STATUTES THAT CONTROL THE TRUST FUND:

Section 350.113, F.S., creates the Florida Public Service Regulatory Trust Fund and provides for its purposes.

2. BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE FUND'S USES OR PURPOSES:

Section 350.113, F.S., provides that all fees, licenses and other charges collected by the Commission must be used to perform the various utility regulatory functions and duties assigned to the Commission by law. Penalties and interest assessed and collected by the Commission, however, must be deposited in the General Revenue Fund. This trust fund is subject to a 7.3% General Revenue surcharge as described in section 215.20, F.S.

In addition to funding the operations of the Commission, this trust fund also supports the operations of the Florida Public Service Commission Nominating Council (s. 350.031, F.S.).

Re-creating the Florida Public Service Regulatory Trust Fund enables the Florida Public Service Commission to receive, spend and account for assessment fees collected to fund the costs of regulating Communications, Public Electric and Gas Utilities and Water and Wastewater companies in Florida.

In the 2001-2002 fiscal year, the Legislature appropriated \$27,292,781.

3. MAJOR SOURCES OF REVENUE FOR THE FUND:

Pursuant to section 350.113, F.S., all fees, licenses, and other charges collected by the Commission are deposited into the State Treasury to the credit of the Florida Public Service Regulatory Trust Fund.

B. EFFECT OF PROPOSED CHANGES:

This bill re-creates the trust fund without modification.

III. FISCAL ANALYSIS & ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT:

This legislation has no fiscal impact on state agencies or state funds, on local governments as a whole or on the private sector. It simply re-creates, without modification, an existing state trust fund and continues the current use of the fund.

IV. COMMENTS:

None.

V. AMENDMENTS OR COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE CHANGES:

N/A

VI. SIGNATURES:

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT APPROPRIATIONS:

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