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SENATE BILL 6141

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State of Washington

54th Legislature

1996 Regular Session

By Senators Swecker, Fraser and Rasmussen

Read first time 01/08/96. Referred to Committee on Energy,  
Telecommunications & Utilities.

1 AN ACT Relating to investor-owned water companies; and amending RCW  
2 80.28.060.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 80.28.060 and 1989 c 152 s 1 are each amended to read  
5 as follows:

6 (1) Unless the commission otherwise orders, no change shall be made  
7 in any rate or charge or in any form of contract or agreement or in any  
8 rule or regulation relating to any rate, charge, or service, or in any  
9 general privilege or facility which shall have been filed and published  
10 by a gas company, electrical company, or water company in compliance  
11 with the requirements of RCW 80.28.050 except after thirty days' notice  
12 to the commission and publication for thirty days, which notice shall  
13 plainly state the changes proposed to be made in the schedule then in  
14 force and the time when the change will go into effect and all proposed  
15 changes shall be shown by printing, filing, and publishing new  
16 schedules, or shall be plainly indicated upon the schedules in force at  
17 the time and kept open to public inspection. Proposed changes may be  
18 suspended by the commission within thirty days or before the stated  
19 effective date of the proposed change, whichever is later. The

1 commission, for good cause shown, may allow changes without requiring  
2 the thirty days' notice by duly filing, in such manner as it may  
3 direct, an order specifying the changes so to be made and the time when  
4 it shall take effect. All such changes shall be immediately indicated  
5 upon its schedules by the company affected. When any change is made in  
6 any rate or charge, form of contract or agreement, or any rule or  
7 regulation relating to any rate or charge or service, or in any general  
8 privilege or facility, the effect of which is to increase any rate or  
9 charge((7)) then in existence, attention shall be directed on the copy  
10 filed with the commission to such increase by some character  
11 immediately preceding or following the item in such schedule, such  
12 character to be in form as designated by the commission.

13 (2) In the case of an investor-owned water company, any change  
14 subject to the thirty-day notice and publication period specified in  
15 subsection (1) of this section is subject to an additional fourteen-day  
16 public comment period or periods, which shall commence: (a) At the end  
17 of the thirty-day period; and (b) upon the filing of any report or  
18 recommendation to the commission by commission staff concerning the  
19 change. After consideration of any comments received, the commission  
20 may allow or disallow the change.

21 Capital expenditures of more than fifteen thousand dollars may be  
22 made by an investor-owned water company only after a call for bids.  
23 Projects of up to one hundred thousand dollars may be awarded through  
24 a small works roster as specified in RCW 39.04.155.

25 For the purposes of this subsection, "investor-owned water company"  
26 means a corporation, company, association, joint stock association,  
27 partnership, or person, or lessees, trustees, or receivers appointed by  
28 any court whatsoever, owning, controlling, operating, or managing any  
29 public water system for hire.