

1 6726-S AMS PREN S5203.1

2 SSB 6726 - S AMD - 061
3 By Senator Prentice

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5 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the
6 following:

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that large-scale
8 downsizings, mergers, or work force reductions by public utility
9 suppliers, such as electric, natural gas, telecommunications, and water
10 companies can have a substantial impact in the quality of utility
11 service and add to family stress. The legislature further finds that
12 it is in the public interest for the utilities and transportation
13 commission to review and comment on these potential impacts prior to
14 major large-scale mergers or work force reductions.

15 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 80.04 RCW
16 to read as follows:

17 A public service company is required to notify the commission
18 ninety days prior to a work force reduction of one hundred or more
19 employees that occurs within a ninety-day period. The company shall
20 submit documentation of the potential impact on the quality of service
21 resulting from the proposed downsizing or merger. Within seventy days
22 of notification, the commission shall review the potential impact of
23 the work force reduction on the quality of utility service provided to
24 communities, businesses, individuals, and state and local governments
25 served by the public service company and shall hold a public meeting to
26 allow consumer comment. The commission will then notify the public
27 service company and interested parties of its findings."

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1 On page 1, line 1 of the title, after "commission;" strike the
2 remainder of the title and insert "adding a new section to chapter
3 80.04 RCW; and creating a new section."

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