

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL NO. 1008

That the Senate recede from its amendments as printed on pages 1331-1333 of the House Journal and pages 999-1001 of the Senate Journal and that Engrossed House Bill No. 1008 be amended as follows:

Page 1, line 10, remove "and"

Page 1, line 10, after "transfer" insert "; and to declare an emergency"

Page 1, replace lines 20 and 21 with:

"Salaries and wages	\$9,495,560	\$495,928	\$9,991,488
Operating expenses	1,763,826	37,744	1,801,570"

Page 2, replace line 3 with:

"Railroad safety program	589,018	25,706	614,724"
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Page 2, replace lines 5 through 7 with:

"Total all funds	\$18,887,404	\$1,005,378	\$19,892,782
Less estimated income	<u>12,172,476</u>	<u>1,289,219</u>	<u>13,461,695</u>
Total general fund	\$6,714,928	(\$283,841)	\$6,431,087"

Page 3, line 18, remove "twice the amount of the current biennium's"

Page 3 line 19, replace "appropriation" with "one million one hundred thousand dollars"

Page 3, line 25, replace "public utility fee" with "of the combined assessments"

Page 3, line 26, replace "two hundred twenty-five" with "three hundred"

Page 4, line 8, remove the overstrike over "six hundred"

Page 4, line 8, replace "thirty-four" with "ten"

Page 4, line 31, replace "ninety-six" with "ninety-seven"

Page 4, line 31, replace "eight" with "three"

Page 4, line 31, replace "thirteen" with "sixty-two"

Page 6, after line 21 insert:

**"SECTION 13. EMERGENCY.** Sections 4, 7, 8, and 12 of this Act are declared to be an emergency measure."

Re-number accordingly

**STATEMENT OF PURPOSE OF AMENDMENT:**

**House Bill No. 1008 - Public Service Commission - Conference Committee Action**

	Base Budget	House Version	Conference Committee Changes	Conference Committee Version	Senate Version	Comparison to Senate
Salaries and wages	\$9,495,560	\$9,694,646	\$296,842	\$9,991,488	\$9,991,488	
Operating expenses	1,763,826	1,766,570	35,000	1,801,570	1,801,570	
Capital assets	25,000	145,000		145,000	145,000	
Grants	20,000	20,000		20,000	20,000	
Abandoned mined lands contractual	6,000,000	6,000,000		6,000,000	6,000,000	
Rail rate complaint case	900,000	900,000		900,000	900,000	
Railroad safety program	589,018	613,626	1,098	614,724	614,724	
Specialized legal services	94,000	420,000		420,000	420,000	
<b>Total all funds</b>	<b>\$18,887,404</b>	<b>\$19,559,842</b>	<b>\$332,940</b>	<b>\$19,892,782</b>	<b>\$19,892,782</b>	<b>\$0</b>
Less estimated income	12,172,476	13,379,326	82,369	13,461,695	13,236,695	225,000
General fund	\$6,714,928	\$6,180,516	\$250,571	\$6,431,087	\$6,656,087	(\$225,000)
FTE	43.00	43.00	0.00	43.00	43.00	0.00

**Department 408 - Public Service Commission - Detail of Conference Committee Changes**

	Adds Funding for Salary and Benefit Increases <sup>1</sup>	Restores Funding for Salaries and Wages <sup>2</sup>	Provides Funding for Pipeline Inspector <sup>3</sup>	Total Conference Committee Changes
Salaries and wages	\$14,295	\$150,000	\$132,547	\$296,842
Operating expenses			35,000	35,000
Capital assets				
Grants				
Abandoned mined lands contractual				
Rail rate complaint case				
Railroad safety program	1,098			1,098
Specialized legal services				
<b>Total all funds</b>	<b>\$15,393</b>	<b>\$150,000</b>	<b>\$167,547</b>	<b>\$332,940</b>
Less estimated income	7,369	75,000	0	82,369
General fund	\$8,024	\$75,000	\$167,547	\$250,571
FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

<sup>1</sup> Funding is adjusted to provide salary increases of 1.5 percent on July 1, 2021, with a minimum monthly increase of \$100, and 2 percent on July 1, 2022, the same as the Senate. The House provided salary adjustments of 1.5 percent on July 1, 2021, and July 1, 2022, with a minimum monthly increase of \$100 and a maximum monthly increase of \$250.

<sup>2</sup> Funding of \$75,000 from the general fund is restored for salaries and wages and other funds are increased by \$75,000 relating to the self-funding of the agency. The House had reduced funding from the general fund by \$700,000 and added funding from revenues deposited in the Public Service Commission program fund by \$550,000. The Senate restored \$300,000 from the general fund and reduced other funds by \$150,000.

<sup>3</sup> In addition to \$167,548 of federal funds provided by the House, matching funds from the general fund are added for the reclassification of an unfunded administrative support FTE position to a natural gas pipeline inspector position (\$132,547) and related operating expenses (\$35,000), the same as the Senate version. The House had provided funding from federal funds for the reclassification for the natural gas pipeline inspector position (\$132,548) and related operating expenses (\$35,000).

This amendment also:

- Provides the statutory changes to increase the salary of the Public Service Commissioners. The Public Service Commissioners' annual salary would increase from the current level of \$113,600 to \$115,304, effective July 1, 2021, and to \$117,610, effective July 1, 2022, to reflect the 1.5 percent and 2 percent salary increase respectively, the same as the Senate. The House provided for a 1.5 percent annual salary increase.
- Amends North Dakota Century Code Section 57-43.2-19 relating to the distribution of funds in the highway tax distribution fund to continue the allocation to the rail safety fund and to increase the allocation amount from

\$294,509 per year to \$297,362 per year and adds an expiration date of June 30, 2025. The Senate had removed the expiration date. The House provided \$296,813 per year and provided an expiration date for the allocation.

- Changes the public utilities assessments maximum from \$225,000 to \$300,000. Both the Senate and the House included an assessment maximum of \$225,000.
- Declares Sections 4, 7, 8, and 12 to be an emergency relating to the deposit of certain revenues in the Public Service Commission program fund rather than the general fund. Neither the Senate nor the House included an emergency clause. This change will result in an estimated reduction to 2019-21 biennium general fund revenues of \$12,000.