

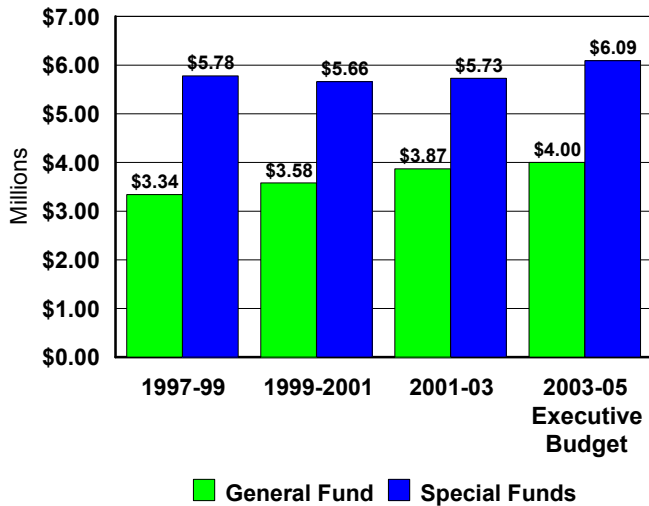
**Department 408 - Public Service Commission
 Senate Bill No. 2008**

	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
2003-05 Executive Budget	41.00	\$4,003,600	\$6,084,744	\$10,088,344
2001-03 Legislative Appropriations	41.00	3,866,379 ¹	5,729,485	9,595,864 ²
Increase (Decrease)	0.00	\$137,221	\$355,259	\$492,480

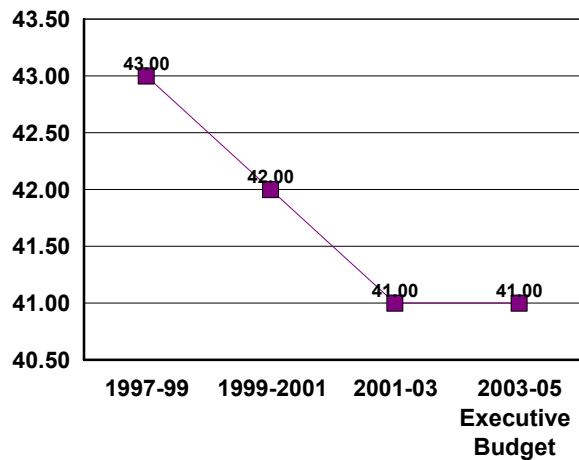
¹ The 2001-03 general fund appropriation is the amount appropriated by the 2001 Legislative Assembly and does not include a reduction of \$40,597 relating to the 1.05 percent budget allotment ordered by Governor Hoeven in July 2002.

² The 2001-03 appropriation amounts include \$14,426, \$9,374 of which is from the general fund, for the agency's share of the \$5 million funding pool appropriated to the Office of Management and Budget for special market equity adjustments for classified employees. The 2001-03 appropriation amounts do not include \$69,000 of additional special funds authority resulting from Emergency Commission action during the 2001-03 biennium.

Agency Funding



FTE Positions



Executive Budget Highlights

	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
Administration			
1. Provides funding from the North Dakota rail rehabilitation loan program to begin the initial stages of a possible rail rate complaint case		\$250,000	\$250,000
Reclamation			
2. Maintains federal funds spending authority for abandoned mine land reclamation projects at \$3,668,492			
3. Provides a funding source change to reflect increased federal funding for abandoned mine land reclamation activity	(\$22,087)	\$22,087	
Testing, Licensing, and Certification			
4. Increases funding for operating expenses primarily for Fleet Services costs	\$34,962		\$34,962
5. Increases funding for the call-before-you-dig program		\$21,850	\$21,850
Public Utilities			
6. No significant changes for public utilities			

Major Related Legislation

Section 3 of Senate Bill No. 2008 increases the statutory changes as necessary to increase the salary of the Public Service Commissioners as follows:

Annual salary authorized by the 2001 Legislative Assembly:

July 1, 2001	\$66,509
January 1, 2002	\$68,504
July 1, 2002	\$69,874

Proposed annual salary recommendation in the 2003-05 executive budget:

July 1, 2003	\$69,874
January 1, 2004	\$70,575
January 1, 2005	\$71,986

House Bill No. 1052 - This bill creates a performance assurance fund, which is a component of Qwest's performance assurance plan to provide long-distance telephone service. The performance assurance plan provides that Qwest must meet predetermined service quality goals and benchmarks or be subject to damages. A continuing appropriation is provided for these damage awards to be used by the Public Service Commission to monitor the operation and effect of the performance assurance plan.

House Bill No. 1132 - This bill changes the process for authorizing telecommunications resellers from a one-time registration certificate process to an annual licensing process.

House Bill No. 1133 - This bill provides for a \$100 annual fee to the Public Service Commission for each public utility authorized to do business in North Dakota. The annual fee is to be deposited in the general fund.

House Bill No. 1157 - This bill provides that a grain warehouse and grain buyer initial license application that becomes effective on or after June 1 does not expire until July 31 of the following calendar year.

Senate Bill No. 2112 - This bill increases the statutory fees charged to test and certify weights and measures equipment used in commercial service.

Senate Bill No. 2113 - This bill will eventually make it mandatory for anhydrous ammonia dealers to sell fertilizer via certified scales or pumps rather than via percent gauges. Compliance will become mandatory in 10 years.

Senate Bill No. 2114 - This bill increases the annual license fee for auctioneers or clerks from \$35 to \$60.

Senate Bill No. 2116 - This bill requires that telecommunications companies provide customers with written notice of price increases for certain services.

Senate Bill No. 2117 - This bill authorizes the use of the valuation fund by the Public Service Commission for additional types of gas and electric cases.