

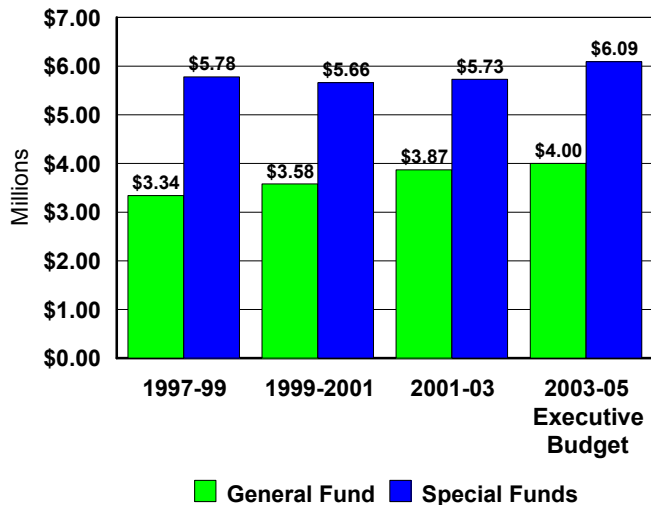
**Department 408 - Public Service Commission  
Senate Bill No. 2008**

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

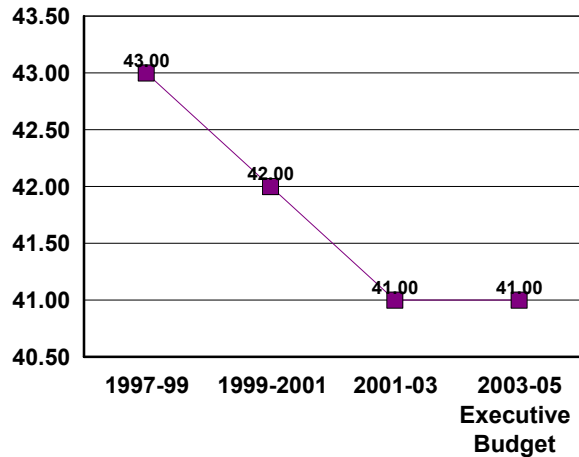
<sup>1</sup> The 2001-03 general fund appropriation is the amount appropriated by the 2001 Legislative Assembly and does not include a reduction of \$40,597 relating to the 1.05 percent budget allotment ordered by Governor Hoeven in July 2002.

<sup>2</sup> 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**



**First House Action**

Attached is a summary of the first house changes.

**Executive Budget Highlights  
(With First House Changes Noted)**

	<b>General Fund</b>	<b>Other Funds</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Administration</b>			
1. Provides funding from the North Dakota rail rehabilitation loan program to begin the initial stages of a possible rail rate complaint case. The Senate made this funding an emergency measure.		\$250,000	\$250,000
<b>Reclamation</b>			
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	
<b>Testing, Licensing, and Certification</b>			
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

The Senate removed the 2003-05 biennium salary increases for the Public Service Commissioners.

Section 3 of Engrossed Senate Bill No. 2008 provides for the Public Service Commission to repay the state rail fund up to \$250,000 from any proceeds of a successful outcome of a rail rate complaint case.

**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. 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.