



IOWA HOUSE DEMOCRATS

BILL SUMMARY

Public Utility Fee for Right-of-Way HF 537

Status of Bill: House Floor
Committee: Commerce (13-10)

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Lead Democrat: Rep. Williams
Floor Manager: Rep. Bloomingdale

Bill Summary

Currently, Iowa Code allows local governments to impose certain fees on public utilities for operating their facilities in public rights-of-way. However, local governments may only impose fees for management costs caused by the utility's activity in the right-of-way and not for in-kind services in lieu of a fee.

HF 537 would modify 'management costs' definition to require these costs to be direct and fully documented. Additionally, a local government would only be able to recover permit fees for management costs attributable to a public utility's requested use of an available public right-of-way versus management costs caused by a utility's activity in the right-of-way. Voluntary agreements between local governments and public utilities to share services in order to reduce costs and in-kind services in lieu of fees would no longer be prohibited.

Ver Schuer, Alison [LEGIS]G:\Caucus Staff\AVS\Commerce\2019 Session\HSF 537- Public Utility Fee for Right-of-Way Bill Summary.docx\March 9, 2019\2:30 PM