COMMITTEE REPORT

February 6, 2018

**S. 955**

Introduced by Senators Alexander, Hutto, Setzler, Rankin, Massey and Leatherman

S. Printed 2/6/18--S.

Read the first time January 31, 2018.

**THE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY**

To whom was referred a Joint Resolution (S. 955) to direct the Public Utilities Review Committee to resume screening candidates for the Public Service Commission, Seats 2, 4, and 6, and to advertise for these positions, etc., respectfully

**REPORT:**

That they have duly and carefully considered the same and recommend that the same do pass:

LUKE A. RANKIN for Committee.

**STATEMENT OF ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT**

**Explanation of Fiscal Impact**

**Introduced on January 31, 2018**

**State Expenditure**

This bill requires the Public Utilities Review Committee (PURC) to resume screening candidates for the Public Service Commission Seats 2, 4, and 6. PURC must advertise for these positions, from at least February 16, 2018, through March 2, 2018, and accept applications from February 22, 2018, to March 5, 2018. These applications are to be considered in addition to any applications previously submitted.

Currently, PURC is responsible for nominating no more than three candidates for each seat on the Public Service Commission to be elected by the General Assembly. In addition, any expenses incurred by the committee to qualify and nominate candidates for the Public Service Commission must be borne by the public utilities subject to the jurisdiction of the Public Service Commission.

This bill requires PURC to perform activities that will be conducted in the normal course of the committee’s business. As a result, this bill does not have an expenditure impact on the general fund, other funds, or federal funds.

Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director

Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office

**A** **JOINT RESOLUTION**

TO DIRECT THE PUBLIC UTILITIES REVIEW COMMITTEE TO RESUME SCREENING CANDIDATES FOR THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION, SEATS 2, 4, AND 6, AND TO ADVERTISE FOR THESE POSITIONS FOR AN ADDITIONAL TIME PERIOD BEGINNING NO LATER THAN FEBRUARY 16, 2018 THROUGH MARCH 2, 2018, AND TO ACCEPT APPLICATIONS FROM FEBRUARY 22, 2018 THROUGH NOON ON MARCH 5, 2018.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina:

SECTION 1. The Public Utilities Review Committee shall resume screening candidates for the Public Service Commission Seats 2, 4 and 6. The Public Utilities Review Committee previously fulfilled the notice requirements pursuant to South Carolina Code of Laws Section 2-20-15; however, the Public Utilities Review Committee is directed to advertise for these positions for an additional time period, to begin no later than Friday, February 16, 2018 through Friday, March 2, 2018. The Public Utilities Review Committee must accept applications from Thursday, February 22, 2018 through noon on Monday, March 5, 2018. These applications would be considered by the Public Utilities Review Committee in addition to the applications previously submitted.

SECTION 2. This joint resolution takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

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