

January 19, 1951.
Public Utilities.

House File 112
By COOKSEY.

Passed House, Date
Vote: Ayes..... Nays.....
Passed Senate, Date
Vote: Ayes..... Nays.....
Approved

A BILL FOR

An Act to establish an Iowa Public Utilities Commission to regulate services and rates of public utilities operating within the state.

Whereas, it is widely recognized and established that monopolies are natural and desirable in the public utilities field, and

Whereas, it is desirable and necessary that the public be fully protected from monopolistic improprieties, and

Whereas, public utilities can render reliable service at reasonable rates only when protected from unfair competition and a multiplicity of regulations, and

Whereas, it is the policy of the State of Iowa that the citizens therein be provided reliable service by public utilities at reasonable rates,

Be It Enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa:

1 Section 1. An Iowa Public Utilities Commission is hereby
2 established.

1 Section 2. The commission shall consist of a commissioner
2 and deputy commissioner, appointed by the Governor of the State
3 of Iowa, and their terms of office shall be four years or the
4 pleasure of the Governor. The annual salary of the Commissioner
5 shall be Ten Thousand Dollars, (\$10,000.00), and that of the
6 deputy commissioner shall be Seven Thousand Five Hundred Dollars,
7 (\$7,500.00).

1 Section 3. It shall be the duty of the commission, at any
2 time, and the commission is hereby empowered, to inquire into
3 and regulate the services and rates of the public utilities
4 within its jurisdiction with the object of providing reliable
5 service to the public at a reasonable charge.

1 Section 4. Hereafter, no public utility shall operate
2 within the State of Iowa unless it shall first have obtained
3 a certificate of convenience and necessity from the commission
4 except in the case of those utilities operating at this time
5 under a charter or franchise granted by a municipal corporation.
6 After the expiration of the term under which such utilities
7 are now operating, a certificate of convenience and necessity
8 shall be required as hereinbefore set forth.

1 Section 5. The term "public utilities" means and includes
2 private and public power companies, gas companies, telephone
3 and telegraph companies, contract carriers of goods and persons
4 and pipelines not already regulated by the Iowa Commerce
5 Commission, and such other companies or concerns as the commission
6 may determine to be public utilities.

1 Section 6. A certificate of public convenience and necessity
2 is a certificate issued by the commission upon its finding that
3 the applicant therefore is a public utility, that it intends to
4 and will operate in a field not already adequately served, and
5 that it will operate at a reasonable rate as approved by the
6 commission.

1 Section 7. Because this act is beneficial to the public

2 utilities in relieving them of competition, threats of competition,
3 multiplicity of regulations, and other harassing and unfair
4 practices, the salaries, costs, and expenses of the Iowa Public
5 Utilities Commission shall be borne by the participating utilities
6 in proportion to the business transacted by them within the
7 state.

1 Section 8. This act shall take effect on July 1st, 1952.

EXPLANATION OF H. F. 112

The purpose of this bill is to provide reliable service at reasonable rates to the public by the public utilities, and to protect the public utilities from a multiplicity of regulations and unfair competition.