

SENATE

STATE OF MINNESOTA

EIGHTY-NINTH SESSION

S.F. No. 1317

(SENATE AUTHORS: OSMEK)

DATE	D-PG	OFFICIAL STATUS
03/04/2015	524	Introduction and first reading Referred to Environment and Energy

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A bill for an act

relating to energy; modifying the treatment of certain utility advertising

expenditures; amending Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 216B.16, subdivision 8.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

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Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 216B.16, subdivision 8, is amended to read:

Subd. 8. **Advertising expense.** (a) The commission shall disapprove the portion of

any rate which makes an allowance directly or indirectly for expenses incurred by a public

utility to provide a public advertisement which:

(1) is designed to influence or has the effect of influencing public attitudes toward

legislation or proposed legislation, or toward a rule, proposed rule, authorization or

proposed authorization of the Public Utilities Commission or other agency of government

responsible for regulating a public utility;

(2) is designed to justify or otherwise support or defend a rate, proposed rate,

practice or proposed practice of a public utility;

~~(3) is designed primarily to promote consumption of the services of the utility;~~

~~(4)~~ (3) is designed primarily to promote good will for the public utility or improve

the utility's public image; or

~~(5)~~ (4) is designed to promote the use of nuclear power or to promote a nuclear

waste storage facility.

(b) The commission may approve a rate which makes an allowance for expenses

incurred by a public utility to disseminate information which:

(1) is designed to encourage conservation of energy supplies;

(2) is designed to promote safety; or

2.1 (3) is designed to inform and educate customers as to financial services made
2.2 available to them by the public utility.

2.3 (c) The commission shall not withhold approval of a rate because it makes an
2.4 allowance for expenses incurred by the utility to disseminate information about corporate
2.5 affairs to its owners.

2.6 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.