

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

Action:	Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed
Vote:	7 - 0 - 0
Yeas:	Berger, Buckley, Esquivel, Hunt, Roblan, Thatcher, Rosenbaum
Nays:	0
Exc.:	0
Prepared By:	Theresa Van Winkle, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	6/23

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Establishes a new definition of “telecommunications” and “telecommunications utility” and updates the definition of “telecommunications service” in statutes related to the regulation of telecommunications utilities.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Provisions of the measure

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Removes sections of the measure relating to regulating calls made from automatic dialing and announcing devices.

BACKGROUND: SB 17 (2005) created the Task Force on Telecommunications Law Revision to review ORS chapter 759 and other laws relating to telecommunications. The measure directed the task force to revise statutory provisions to reflect changing technology, to correct inconsistent terminology, and to make Oregon laws consistent with federal requirements. The task force recommended changes to the definitions section, which are incorporated into SB 982 B. The changes are intended to update the language without changing the authority of the Public Utility Commission.

The definition of telecommunications service in ORS 759.005 currently refers only to “two-way switched access and transport of voice communications.” This definition is outdated and narrow, and does not specify that to be considered a service it must be offered for a fee. The new definition of telecommunications and the revised definition of telecommunications service in SB 982 B are consistent with federal definitions.