

# House Bill 3453

Sponsored by Representative BUTLER

## SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**.

Creates task force to study mortgage financing for houses that are not connected to electric power grid.

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

## A BILL FOR AN ACT

1  
2 Relating to housing that is not connected to electric distribution systems; and declaring an emer-  
3 gency.

4 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

5 **SECTION 1. (1) There is created the Task Force on Off-Grid Housing, consisting of seven**  
6 **members appointed as follows:**

7 (a) **The Speaker of the House of Representatives, in consultation with the President of**  
8 **the Senate, shall appoint one member from among members of the House of Representatives.**  
9 **The member must represent a district that has most of its area lying east of the summit**  
10 **of the Cascade Mountains.**

11 (b) **The Director of the State Department of Energy shall appoint one member to repre-**  
12 **sent that department.**

13 (c) **The Director of the Department of Consumer and Business Services shall appoint one**  
14 **member to represent that department.**

15 (d) **The Director of the Department of Revenue shall appoint one member to represent**  
16 **that department.**

17 (e) **The Director of the Housing and Community Services Department shall appoint one**  
18 **member to represent that department.**

19 (f) **The Governor shall appoint two members. Of the two members appointed by the**  
20 **Governor:**

21 (A) **One shall be a representative of electric cooperatives; and**

22 (B) **One shall be a representative of financial organizations.**

23 (2) **The task force may allow nonmember participation in the work of the task force by**  
24 **any persons a majority of the task force deems appropriate or any persons recommended by**  
25 **the Governor.**

26 (3) **The task force shall:**

27 (a) **Investigate the availability of mortgage financing for homes that are not connected**  
28 **to an electric distribution system.**

29 (b) **Seek to identify mortgage financing sources for homes that do not qualify for con-**  
30 **ventional federally-backed mortgage finance programs because they are not connected to an**  
31 **electric distribution system.**

**NOTE:** Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter [*italic and bracketed*] is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 (c) Issue recommendations for promoting the availability of financing for houses that are  
2 not connected to an electric distribution system.

3 (4) The task force may investigate any other matters the task force deems appropriate  
4 that relate to houses that are not connected to an electric distribution system.

5 (5) A majority of the members of the task force constitutes a quorum for the transaction  
6 of business.

7 (6) Official action by the task force requires the approval of a majority of the members  
8 of the task force.

9 (7) The task force shall elect one of its members to serve as chairperson.

10 (8) If there is a vacancy for any cause, the appointing authority shall make an appoint-  
11 ment to become immediately effective.

12 (9) The task force shall meet at times and places specified by the call of the chairperson  
13 or of a majority of the members of the task force.

14 (10) The task force may adopt rules necessary for the operation of the task force.

15 (11) The task force shall submit a report, and may include recommendations for legis-  
16 lation, to an interim committee related to consumer matters no later than October 1, 2008.

17 (12) The State Department of Energy shall provide staff support to the task force.

18 (13) Members of the task force who are not members of the Legislative Assembly are not  
19 entitled to compensation, but may be reimbursed for actual and necessary travel and other  
20 expenses incurred by them in the performance of their official duties in the manner and  
21 amounts provided for in ORS 292.495. Claims for expenses incurred in performing functions  
22 of the task force shall be paid out of funds appropriated to the State Department of Energy  
23 for that purpose.

24 (14) All agencies of state government, as defined in ORS 174.111, are directed to assist  
25 the task force in the performance of its duties and, to the extent permitted by laws relating  
26 to confidentiality, to furnish such information and advice as the members of the task force  
27 consider necessary to perform their duties.

28 **SECTION 2.** Section 1 of this 2007 Act is repealed January 1, 2009.

29 **SECTION 3.** This 2007 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public  
30 peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2007 Act takes effect  
31 on its passage.

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