## 75th OREGON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY – 2010 Special Session STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

**Senate Committee on Business and Transportation** 

**REVENUE:** No revenue impact

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

**Action:** Do Pass the A-Engrossed Measure

**Vote:** 4 - 1 - 0

**Yeas:** Schrader, Starr, Verger, Metsger

Nays: George

Exc.:

**Prepared By:** Jim Stembridge, Administrator

**Meeting Dates:** 2/17

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Allows above-market costs associated with compliance with renewable portfolio standard (RPS) to be recoverable in electric companies' rates. Allows above-market costs associated with compliance with a solar photovoltaic generating capacity standard to be recoverable in electric companies' rates. Declares an emergency, effective upon passage.

**MEASURE: HB 3691 A** 

**CARRIER: Sen. Verger** 

## **ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

• Use and availability of rate-payer public purpose funds for above-market costs

## **EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:** No amendment.

**BACKGROUND:** Current statute allows recovery of prudently incurred costs, but does not specifically cite "above-market costs." Above-market costs are the difference between what electric power produced by a project is worth, at standard rates, and what it actually costs to produce the power. The costs of producing electric power from renewable sources are often higher than from non-renewable sources, such as coal or petroleum. HB 3691-A specifically includes "above-market costs."