

BEFORE THE SENATE BUSINESS, TRANSPORTATION
AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

House Bill 2075

Testimony of Jon Cray

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MEASURE: HB 2075
EXHIBIT: 1
HOUSE REVENUE COMMITTEE
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Current statute requires landline and wireless telephone customers to pay the 9-1-1 fee for their access to emergency services. The Oregon Emergency Management (OEM) is proposing HB 2075 in which all fixed interconnected VoIP and prepaid telecommunications service providers would be required to collect and remit the 9-1-1 fee from its customers who have access to the emergency service. If fixed interconnected VoIP and prepaid telecommunications service providers are not required to contribute, the surcharge for their customers' access to 9-1-1 emergency services will continue to be paid by landline and wireless ratepayers.

The PUC has a similar bill, SB 146, which would require fixed interconnected VoIP and prepaid telecommunications service providers to collect and remit the Residential Service Protection Fund surcharge from its customers who have access to the telecommunications relay service. The PUC, OEM and the Department of Revenue (the agency responsible for collecting the 9-1-1 fee), worked together to develop these bills.

The PUC believes this is a fair and equitable measure that serves the best interest of the public by requiring all customers with access to these services to help pay the cost of providing the services.