

**76<sup>th</sup> OREGON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY – 2011 Regular Session  
BUDGET REPORT AND MEASURE SUMMARY**

**JOINT COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS**

**MEASURE: SB 144-A**

**Carrier – House: Rep. Beyer**

**Carrier – Senate: Sen. Verger**

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**Action:** Do Pass as Amended and as Printed A-Engrossed

**Vote:** 22 – 1 – 2

House – Yeas: Beyer, Buckley, Cowan, Garrard, Komp, Kotek, McLane, Nathanson, Nolan, Richardson, G. Smith, Thatcher, Whisnant

– Nays:

– Exc: Freeman

Senate – Yeas: Devlin, Edwards, Girod, Monroe, Nelson, Thomsen, Verger, Whitsett, Winters

– Nays: Johnson

– Exc: Bates

**Prepared By:** Tamara Brickman, Department of Administrative Services

**Reviewed By:** Michelle Deister, Legislative Fiscal Office

**Meeting Date:** May 6, 2011

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**Agency**

Public Utility Commission

**Budget Page**

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**Biennium**

2011-13

**Budget Summary\***

|                           | 2009-11                           |   | 2011-13               |   | 2011-13           |   | Committee Change from |                  |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|-----------------------|---|-------------------|---|-----------------------|------------------|
|                           | Legislatively Approved Budget (1) |   | Current Service Level |   | Governor's Budget |   | 2009-11 Leg Approved  |                  |
|                           |                                   |   |                       |   |                   |   | \$ change             | % change         |
| Public Utility Commission |                                   |   |                       |   |                   |   |                       |                  |
| Other Funds               | \$                                | 0 | \$                    | 0 | \$                | 0 | \$ 178,187            | +178,187 +100.0% |

**Position Summary**

|                                      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
|--------------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Authorized Positions                 | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0    |
| Full-time Equivalent (FTE) Positions | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |

(1) Includes adjustments through March 2011.

\* Excludes Capital Construction expenditures

**Summary of Revenue Changes**

Senate Bill 144-A revises current law to expand eligibility for the Telecommunication Devices Access Program (TDAP) to a broader segment of the hard of hearing and speech impaired population, and expands the statutory list of professionals who can certify an individual as being eligible for the program to include nurse practitioners, rehabilitation instructors for persons who are blind, speech-language pathologists, and hearing aid specialists. The program is supported by the Residential Service Protection Fund, which receives a \$0.12 surcharge assessed against each paying retail subscriber who has telephone or cellular service, with the exception of Voice Over Internet Protocol (VoIP) or Prepaid cellular services. The TDAP loans adaptive telephone equipment at no cost to eligible Oregonians who have an impairment in at least one of the following areas: hearing, vision, speech, mobility, or cognitive function.

**Summary of Subcommittee Action**

**Public Utility Commission**

The Subcommittee approved an increase of \$178,187 Other Funds, to the commission to purchase additional equipment to send out to clients and for repairs and refurbishments of returned equipment. The limitation provided to the commission for the program will be for services and supplies within the Residential Service Protection Program Area, based on the program's expanded eligibility criteria resulting from this measure.