

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

Action:	Do Pass and Be Placed on the Consent Calendar
Vote:	8 - 0 - 0
Yeas:	Frederick, Greenlick, Harker, Parrish, Thompson, Weidner, Gilliam, Tomei
Nays:	0
Exc.:	0
Prepared By:	Jennifer Kellar, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	4/25, 5/2

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Alters the definition of “low income customers” as it relates to eligibility for the Oregon Telephone Assistance Program (OTAP) by removing the requirement that residents of a long term care facility or a residential care facility who receive medical assistance also not exceed 135 percent of federal poverty guidelines.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Reasons for removal of 135 percent federal poverty level restriction
- OTAP description
- Participation level in OTAP
- Biennial cost of OTAP

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: The Oregon Telephone Assistance Program is one of three telecommunication assistance programs under the Residential Service Protection Fund, which was enacted by the 1987 Legislative Assembly to assure that adequate, affordable residential telecommunication service is available to all citizens of Oregon. Those who qualify for the program can receive at a maximum reduction of \$13.50 from their monthly bill for local residential telephone service or cellular service.