

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

Action: Do Pass
Vote: 6 - 0 - 0
Yeas: Atkinson, Burdick, Edwards, Girod, Starr, Beyer
Nays: 0
Exc.: 0
Prepared By: Richard Berger, Administrator
Meeting Dates: 2/10

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Alters the definition of “low income customers” as it relates to eligibility for the Oregon Telephone Assistance Program 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:

- Need to serve Medicare recipients who are in long term care facilities or residential care facilities

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.