

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

Action:	Do Pass
Vote:	5 - 0 - 1
Yeas:	Atkinson, Edwards, Girod, Starr, Beyer
Nays:	0
Exc.:	Burdick
Prepared By:	Richard Berger, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	4/5, 4/11

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Repeals existing statutes governing adjustment of public utility rates to account for taxes paid by electricity and natural gas utilities. Requires the Public Utility Commission to consider taxes paid by electricity and natural gas utilities when conducting ratemaking proceeding. Allows Commission to adjust rates for electricity or natural gas utility that is part of a group of corporations of which the public utility is a member and that files a consolidated federal tax return. Requires Commission to balance confidentiality of tax documents in ratemaking proceeding with need for information in such documents by Commission. Allows the Commission to consider taxes paid when approving merger or acquisition of electricity or natural gas utility. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Need to save rate payers money
- Unintended consequences of Senate Bill 408 (2005)

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: The existing statute repealed by Senate Bill 967 is from Senate Bill 408, which was enacted by the 2005 Oregon Legislature. Senate Bill 408 required four regulated electric and natural gas utilities—Portland General Electric, PacifiCorp, NW Natural and Avista—to file tax reports with the Commission annually on October 15th.