

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

Measure: HB 2004

Seventy-Seventh Oregon Legislative Assembly – 2013 Regular Session
Legislative Fiscal Office

*Only Impacts on Original or Engrossed
Versions are Considered Official*

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Measure Description:

Increases additional moneys to be collected from residential electricity consumers upon Housing and Community Services Department making certain findings related to need for low-income electric bill payment assistance.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Public Utility Commission, Housing and Community Services Department

Summary of Impact:

Summary of Expenditure Impact		
Minimal (See Analysis)		
Summary of Revenue Impact		
	2013-15 Biennium	2015-17 Biennium
General Fund		
Lottery Funds		
Other Funds	13,500,000	16,000,000
Federal Funds		
Total Funds	\$13,500,000	\$16,000,000

Local Government Mandate:

This bill does not affect local governments' service levels or shared revenues sufficient to trigger Section 15, Article XI of the Oregon Constitution.

Analysis:

HB 2004 amends statute that requires electric companies or Oregon Community Power to collect moneys from residential consumers for low-income electric bill payment assistance. The bill increases the assistance program funding from \$5 million to \$8 million annually, in the event that two of four specified statewide economic thresholds outlined in the bill are met. These thresholds are as follows:

- An unemployment rate exceeding 10 percent for at least six months of the previous 12-month period;
- A poverty rate as determined by the United States Census Bureau exceeding 12 percent during the previous 12-month period;
- A federal allocation of Low Income Home Energy Assistance program funds of 75 percent or less of the previous year's allocation; and
- The number of households in Oregon receiving supplemental nutrition assistance exceeding 20 percent during the previous 12-month period.

Further, HB 2004 repeals the original sunset date of January 2, 2014.

The Legislative Fiscal Office is unable to determine whether conditions sufficient to trigger the collection of these additional funds will actually occur. However, should additional collections take place, additional revenue results in \$13.5 million Other Funds (OF) in the 2013-15 biennium and \$16 million OF in the 2015-17 biennium. Calculations are based on an assumed effective date of July 1, 2013. The proposed legislation is determined to have minimal expenditure impact on The Public Utility Commission (PUC) and the Oregon Housing and Community Services Department (OHCS).

While this individual measure has a “Minimal” fiscal impact, an agency may incur a net fiscal impact greater than minimal depending on the cumulative impact of all measures enacted into law that affect the agency.