

**REVENUE:** Revenue statement issued

**FISCAL:** Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

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<b>Action:</b>	Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed
<b>Vote:</b>	7 - 1 - 1
<b>Yeas:</b>	Bentz, Boone, Dembrow, Johnson, Reardon, Vega Pederson, Bailey
<b>Nays:</b>	Whitsett
<b>Exc.:</b>	Weidner
<b>Prepared By:</b>	Adam Crawford, Administrator
<b>Meeting Dates:</b>	4/4, 4/9

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:** Increases amount of money collected from residential electric customers for low-income electric bill assistance if requested by Oregon Housing and Community Services Department (OHCS). Requires Director of OHCS to appoint advisory committee on low-income electric bill payment funding. Provides advisory committee composition, rules and goals. Requires advisory committee to report to the Legislative Assembly by December 1, 2013, on duties and functions relating to low-income electric bill payment assistance currently held by OHCS and make recommendations to which agency or entity those duties and functions should be transferred. Designates topics advisory committee must consider in making recommendations. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Current regulatory environment
- Existing energy needs
- Economic conditions in rural Oregon
- Program history

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:** Replaces measure.

**BACKGROUND:** Senate Bill 863 passed in 2011 Legislative Assembly Session. Senate Bill 863 empowered the Public Utility Commission (PUC) to direct the electric utilities they oversee to collect for no more than two years an additional \$5 million to supplement low-income electrical bill payment assistance. House Bill 2004 A would continue this process until January 2, 2016 when the law would sunset.