

**REVENUE: No revenue impact**

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

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<b>Action:</b>	Without Recommendation as to Passage and Be Referred to the Committee on Rules
<b>Vote:</b>	5 - 1 - 0
<b>Yeas:</b>	Edwards, Girod, Monroe, Starr, Beyer
<b>Nays:</b>	Thomsen
<b>Exc.:</b>	0
<b>Prepared By:</b>	Patrick Brennan, Administrator
<b>Meeting Dates:</b>	4/18

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:** Directs Public Utility Commission to establish voluntary program for greenhouse gas emission reduction. Specifies purpose of program is to create incentives for public utilities to invest in projects that reduce greenhouse gas emissions and provide benefits to customers of public utilities.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Impact of greenhouse gas emission reduction efforts
- Climate change
- Pre-approval prior to implementation

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:** No amendment.

**BACKGROUND:** In 2007, the Legislative Assembly enacted House Bill 3543, establishing greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reduction goals for the state, including the goal of reducing GHG levels to at least 10 percent below 1990 levels by the year 2020. In 2009, the Legislative Assembly enacted Senate Bill 101, requiring the Public Utility Commission (PUC) to report biennially to the Legislative Assembly on the estimated rate impacts for Oregon's regulated electric and natural gas companies related to meeting the state's greenhouse gas emission goals.

Senate Bill 844 creates a voluntary incentive program for public utilities to invest in projects that reduce greenhouse gas emissions.