

**REVENUE IMPACT OF
PROPOSED LEGISLATION**
Seventy-Seventh Oregon Legislative Assembly
2013 Regular Session
Legislative Revenue Office

Bill Number: HB 2004-A
Revenue Area: Utility surcharges
Economist: Mazen Malik
Date: 04/09/2013

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

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.

Revenue Impact (in \$Millions): \$10 million in other funds for the 2013-15 biennium. The revenue collected sunsets at the end of the biennium.

Impact Explanation:

Senate Bill 863 (2011) increased the amount collected for low-income assistance for electric bill payment by \$5 million per year if two of four specific conditions were met. SB 863 included a sunset and the provision for additional funds is scheduled to expire on January 2, 2014. This measure continues the funding for two more years after the original sunset date to January 2, 2016.

The amended measure removes the stipulation that two of four economic conditions must be met before additional funds are collected; changes the sunset date and establishes an advisory committee on low-income electric bill payment assistance funding.

The additional \$5 million per year would be distributed in the same manner electricity bill payment assistance described in ORS 757.612. The most recent estimate of households that qualify for energy bill payment assistance was approximately 435,000. OHCS receives sufficient administration funds from the base amount, and will not need to retain any of the additional funds at the department.

The advisory committee required in the -3 amendment is similar to the current Advisory Committee on Energy mandated by ORS 485.515515 and ORS 757.612(7)(d)(A). The new committee is directed to study the duties of the department under ORS 757.612 (7). This transition plan is to be presented during the February 2014 session.

Creates, Extends, or Expands Tax Expenditure: Yes No