

HOUSE AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL 2004

By COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT

April 11

1 On page 1 of the printed bill, line 2, after “amending” delete the rest of the line and line 3 and
2 insert “sections 3 and 4, chapter 566, Oregon Laws 2011; and declaring an emergency.”.

3 Delete lines 5 through 30 and delete page 2 and insert:

4 “**SECTION 1.** Section 3, chapter 566, Oregon Laws 2011, is amended to read:

5 “**Sec. 3.** [(1)] Notwithstanding the \$15 million limitation [*expressed*] **described** in ORS 757.612
6 (7)(b), the Public Utility Commission shall direct electric companies or Oregon Community Power
7 to collect a combined total of an additional \$5 million per 12-month period from residential elec-
8 tricity consumers for the low-income electric bill payment assistance provided for in ORS 757.612
9 (7)(a) if the Housing and Community Services Department requests an increase. [*due to finding, in*
10 *consultation with the advisory committee on energy, that two or more of the following events have oc-*
11 *curred.*]

12 “[*(a) The unemployment rate in Oregon as determined by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the*
13 *United States Department of Labor has exceeded 10 percent for at least six months of the previous*
14 *12-month period.*]

15 “[*(b) The poverty rate in Oregon as determined by the United States Census Bureau has exceeded*
16 *12 percent during the previous 12-month period.*]

17 “[*(c) The moneys allocated for the year under the federal Low Income Home Energy Assistance*
18 *Act of 1981 (42 U.S.C. 8621 et seq.) are 75 percent or less of the previous year’s allocation.*]

19 “[*(d) The number of households in Oregon receiving supplemental nutrition assistance has exceeded*
20 *20 percent during the previous 12-month period.*]

21 “[*(2) The additional moneys collected pursuant to this section may not be collected for more*
22 *than.*]

23 “[*(a) Twelve months from the date that the Public Utility Commission directs the electric companies*
24 *or Oregon Community Power to make the collection, without an additional finding by the Housing and*
25 *Community Services Department, not less than nine months after its initial finding under subsection (1)*
26 *of this section, that two or more of the events specified in subsection (1) of this section have occurred;*
27 *or*]

28 “[*(b) A total of 24 months.*]

29 “**SECTION 2.** Section 4, chapter 566, Oregon Laws 2011, is amended to read:

30 “**Sec. 4.** Section 3, **chapter 566, Oregon Laws 2011**, [*of this 2011 Act*] is repealed on January
31 2, [2014] **2016**.

32 “**SECTION 3.** (1) **The Director of the Housing and Community Services Department shall**
33 **appoint an advisory committee on low-income electric bill payment assistance funding.**
34 **Members of the committee must include:**

35 “(a) **A representative from each electric company whose ratepayers contribute funding**

1 to the Housing and Community Services Department Low-Income Electric Bill Payment As-
2 sistance Fund established in ORS 456.587;

3 “(b) A representative of the Citizens’ Utility Board established under ORS chapter 774;
4 and

5 “(c) A representative of Community Action Partnership of Oregon, as defined in ORS
6 456.515.

7 “(2) The committee shall study the duties, functions and powers of the Housing and
8 Community Services Department under ORS 757.612 (7) for the purpose of determining to
9 which agency or entity those duties, functions and powers should be transferred during the
10 2014 regular session of the Seventy-seventh Legislative Assembly. In making the determi-
11 nation, the committee shall consider:

12 “(a) How best to minimize costs associated with the administration of ORS 757.612 (7);

13 “(b) How to provide better service to low-income retail electricity consumers; and

14 “(c) The circumstances under which funds for low-income electric bill payment assist-
15 ance under ORS 757.612 (7) should be collected.

16 “(3) The committee shall report the results of the study under subsection (2) of this
17 section, and shall make recommendations for proposed legislation, to the appropriate interim
18 committees of the Legislative Assembly, as determined by the committee, no later than De-
19 cember 1, 2013.

20 “(4) Official action by the committee requires the approval of a majority of the members
21 of the committee.

22 “(5) The committee shall elect one of its members to serve as chairperson.

23 “(6) The committee shall meet at times and places specified by the call of the chairperson
24 or of a majority of the members of the committee.

25 “(7) If there is a vacancy for any cause, the Director of the Housing and Community
26 Services Department shall make an appointment to become immediately effective.

27 “(8) All agencies of state government, as defined in ORS 174.111, are directed to assist
28 the committee in the performance of its duties and, to the extent permitted by laws relating
29 to confidentiality, to furnish such information and advice as the members of the committee
30 consider necessary to perform their duties.

31 “SECTION 4. Section 3 of this 2013 Act is repealed on the date of the convening of the
32 2014 regular session of the Legislative Assembly as specified in ORS 171.010.

33 “SECTION 5. This 2013 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public
34 peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2013 Act takes effect
35 on its passage.”.