

# House Bill 2004

Sponsored by Representatives KOTEK, MCLANE; Representatives GREENLICK, WEIDNER

## SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**.

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.

Repeals sunset on collection of additional moneys for low-income electric bill payment assistance.

## A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to low-income electric bill payment assistance; creating new provisions; amending section 3, chapter 566, Oregon Laws 2011; and repealing section 4, chapter 566, Oregon Laws 2011.

**Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

**SECTION 1. Section 3, chapter 566, Oregon Laws 2011, is added to and made a part of ORS chapter 757.**

**SECTION 2. Section 3, chapter 566, Oregon Laws 2011, is amended to read:**

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

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

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

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

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

(2) The additional moneys collected pursuant to this section may not be collected for more than:

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

(b) A total of 24 months.

**NOTE:** Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter [*italic and bracketed*] is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1        **SECTION 3.** The amendments to section 3, chapter 566, Oregon Laws 2011, by section 2  
2 of this 2013 Act apply to moneys collected by electric companies or Oregon Community  
3 Power on the basis of findings made by the Housing and Community Services Department  
4 on or after the effective date of this 2013 Act.

5        **SECTION 4.** Section 4, chapter 566, Oregon Laws 2011, is s repealed.

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