

Seventy-Eighth Oregon Legislative Assembly - 2015 Regular Session
STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY
Senate Committee On Human Services and Early Childhood

MEASURE: HB 2599 B
CARRIER: Sen. Monnes Anderson

Fiscal: No Fiscal Impact

Revenue: No Revenue Impact

Action Date: 05/21/15

Action: Do Pass With Amendments To The A-Eng Bill. (Printed B-Eng.)

Meeting Dates: 05/21

Vote:

Yeas: 4 - Gelser, Kruse, Monnes Anderson, Olsen

Exc: 1 - Dembrow

Prepared By: Cheyenne Ross, Committee Administrator

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires both public and private electric and gas utilities to report on processes available to mitigate termination of specified residential customers' service for failure to pay during peak usage, by November 1, 2015. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Protecting vulnerable consumers and households

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

Requires each electrical cooperative, municipal utility, and people's utility district to report to their respective governing body instead of to Oregon Department of Energy.

BACKGROUND:

House Bill 2599-B requires a report from both public and private electric and gas utilities, on what process is offered to certain residential customers, to avoid termination of services during peak usage for failure to pay. Public utilities will report to the Public Utility Commission, and each electrical cooperative, municipal utility, and people's utility district, will report to its governing body. Residential customers specified for reporting purposes are those who receive state or federal energy assistance and are: low-income seniors, active duty servicemembers, households that include seriously ill or disabled persons, households with a child under the age of 12 months, and households where the primary financial provider has died or become unemployed within the past six months.