

**REVENUE IMPACT OF
PROPOSED LEGISLATION**
79th Oregon Legislative Assembly
2017 Regular Session
Legislative Revenue Office

Bill Number: HB 2134 - A
Revenue Area: Electricity surcharges
Economist: Mazen Malik
Date: 03-23-2017

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

Measure Description:

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

Revenue Impact (in \$Millions):

\$5 million a year (\$10 Million in a biennium) for the low-income bill payment assistance program

Impact Explanation:

The Legislature Enacted Senate Bill 461 (2007) which directed the Public Utility Commission to establish a rate to be collected by each electric company so that the total anticipated amount to be collected was \$15 million dollars to be used for low-income electric bill payment assistance. Senate Bill 863 (2011) directed the Public Utility Commission to collect an additional \$5 million per year for the low-income bill payment assistance program in the event certain criteria were met. This measure was set to sunset on January 2, 2014. The Legislature has subsequently extended the sunset during the 2013 (House Bill 2004) and 2015 (House Bill 3257) legislative sessions.

This measure permanently increases the base amount by \$5 million to total of \$20 million per year.

To be eligible to receive assistance, a household's income must be at or below 60 percent of Oregon's median income, based on household income and household size. Recipients must also have documented energy costs. The program in Oregon is administered by the Department of Housing and Community Services (OHCS).

Creates, Extends, or Expands Tax Expenditure: Yes No