

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

Measure: SB 84

79th Oregon Legislative Assembly – 2017 Regular Session
Legislative Fiscal Office

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

Prepared by: Nick Herrera
Reviewed by: Gregory Jolivet
Date: 2/7/2017

Measure Description:

Makes surcharge collected for purposes related to protection for residential services and assistance for persons with disabilities apply to paying retail subscribers who have interconnected voice over internet protocol service.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Public Utility Commission (PUC)

Summary of Expenditure Impact:

	2017-19 Biennium	2019-21 Biennium
Other Funds	242,996	347,406
Total Funds	\$242,996	\$347,406

Summary of Revenue Impact

	2017-19 Biennium	2019-21 Biennium
Other Funds	242,996	347,406
Total Funds	\$242,996	\$347,406

Analysis:

SB 84 expands the Residential Services Protection Fund (RSPF) to include retail subscribers who have interconnected voice over internet protocol (VoIP) services. The RSPF fees are used to support affordable residential telecommunication services to low income and disabled Oregonians. The RSPF program allows for the Public Utility Commission (PUC) to assess a surcharge in an amount not to exceed 35 cents per month against each subscriber’s bill. Section 7, chapter 290, Oregon Laws 1987 requires that the balance of the fund not exceed six months of projected agency expenses. As a result, the current assessment is estimated to be 7 cents; resulting in a total of \$242,996 Other Funds (OF) in the 2017-19 biennium and \$347,406 OF in the 2019-21 biennium. The additional revenue would be used to continue to support the aforementioned programs. Revenue resulting from this legislation is assumed in the PUC budget (HB 5035) under Policy Option Package (POP) 101 - “Residential Services Protection Fund.”

Additionally, SB 84 requires the PUC to define, by rule, the definition for “interconnected voice over internet protocol service”. Costs associated with rulemaking are assumed to be minimal and absorbable within the existing parameters of the PUC budget.