

HB 2494 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Energy and Environment

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Meeting Dates: 4/4

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Extends the sunset on the public purpose charge by ten years, from 2026 to 2036.

REVENUE: May have revenue impact, but no statement yet issued.

FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, but no statement yet issued.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Electricity bills in Oregon include a public purpose charge, which helps fund energy conservation, efficiency, and renewable projects in the state. Senate Bill 1149 (1999) directed Oregon's two largest utilities, Portland General Electric and PacificCorp, to collect a public purpose charge from customers, equal to 3 percent of the total revenues from electricity services. The funds are allocated to conservation projects (56.7 percent), renewable resources (17.1 percent), weatherization for low-income homes (11.7 percent), schools (10.0 percent), and low-income housing (4.5 percent).

House Bill 2494 would extend the sunset on the public purpose charge by ten years, to 2036.