

# Senate Bill 69

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## 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**.

Expands purposes of plan of assistance established by Public Utility Commission under Oregon Telephone Assistance Program to include supporting broadband internet access service.

## A BILL FOR AN ACT

1  
2 Relating to broadband internet access service; amending section 6, chapter 290, Oregon Laws 1987.

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

4 **SECTION 1.** Section 6, chapter 290, Oregon Laws 1987, as amended by section 1, chapter 622,  
5 Oregon Laws 1991, section 1, chapter 29, Oregon Laws 2007, section 25, chapter 599, Oregon Laws  
6 2009, section 1, chapter 77, Oregon Laws 2011, and section 1, chapter 29, Oregon Laws 2013, is  
7 amended to read:

8 **Sec. 6.** (1) In carrying out the provisions of section 2, chapter 290, Oregon Laws 1987, **and to**  
9 **support broadband internet access service**, the Public Utility Commission shall establish a plan  
10 to provide assistance to low income customers through differential rates or otherwise. The plan of  
11 assistance is in addition to the available funding offered by the Federal Communications Commis-  
12 sion. The plan established by the Public Utility Commission shall prescribe the amount of assistance  
13 to be provided and the time and manner of payment.

14 (2) For the purpose of establishing a plan to provide assistance to low income customers under  
15 this section, the commission shall require all public utilities, cooperative corporations and  
16 unincorporated associations providing local exchange telecommunication service to participate in  
17 the plan, except as provided in subsection (3) of this section.

18 (3) In lieu of participation in the commission's plan to assist low income customers, a public  
19 utility, cooperative corporation or unincorporated association providing local exchange telecommu-  
20 nication service may apply to the commission to establish an alternative plan for the [*purpose*]  
21 **purposes** of carrying out the provisions of section 2, chapter 290, Oregon Laws 1987, **and sup-**  
22 **porting broadband internet access service** for its own customers. The commission shall adopt  
23 standards for determining the adequacy of alternative plans.

24 (4) The commission may contract with any governmental agency to assist the commission in the  
25 administration of any assistance plan adopted pursuant to this section.

26 (5) As used in sections 2 to 6, chapter 290, Oregon Laws 1987, "low income customer" has the  
27 meaning given that term by the commission by rule.  
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**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.