SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

HB 5032 Public Utility Commission

To: Ways and Means Full Committee

From: Transportation and Economic Development Subcommittee

Carrier: Representative Gomberg

HB 5032 is the budget bill for the Public Utility Commission.

The PUC is supported almost entirely by fees assessed on investor-owned energy and water utilities, and telecommunications providers. The agency receives a small amount of federal funds.

The Subcommittee approved an all funds budget of \$104,048,850 and 129 positions (128.00 FTE). The recommended budget is a 14% increase from the current service level. This budget adds \$321,972 for ongoing costs of the e-filing/e-discovery IT project and \$1.2 million to increase the Oregon Telephone Assistance Program (or OTAP) discount from \$3.50 to \$10.00 for eligible low-income households.

The Transportation and Economic Development Subcommittee recommends HB 5032 be amended by the –1 amendment and be reported out do pass, as amended.