

**FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION**

**Measure: HB 3459 - 5**

82nd Oregon Legislative Assembly – 2023 Regular Session

Legislative Fiscal Office

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

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**Measure Description:**

Prohibits energy utilities from disconnecting service to a residential customer for failure to pay the amount owed for energy services.

**Government Unit(s) Affected:**

Housing and Community Services Department, Public Utility Commission

**Summary of Fiscal Impact:**

Costs related to the measure may require budgetary action - See analysis.

**Summary of Expenditure Impact:**

	<b>2023-25 Biennium</b>	<b>2025-27 Biennium</b>
<b>Department of Housing and Community Services</b>		
<b>Other Funds</b>		
Special Payments	\$2,500,000	\$2,500,000
<b>Total Other Funds</b>	\$2,500,000	\$2,500,000
<b>Total Fiscal Impact</b>	<b>\$2,500,000</b>	<b>\$2,500,000</b>
<i>Total Positions</i>	0	0
<i>Total FTE</i>	0.00	0.00

**Analysis:** The measure makes changes to supplemental collections associated with the Oregon Energy Assistance Program, a low-income electric bill payment assistance program for customers of Pacific Power and Portland General Electric. Funding for the program comes from fees added to customers’ utility bills. Under current law, the Housing and Community Services Department ( HCSD) receives \$20 million per calendar year as a base amount, which is used to provide electric bill payment assistance to low-income households. In 2021, an additional \$10 million was authorized for collection and deposit through December 2023 This measure reduces the supplemental amount collected to \$5 million and extends the sunset through December 2025.

The timing of collections and extension of the sunset is projected to result in an additional \$2.5 million for bill payment assistance in both the 2023-25 and 2025-27 biennia.

This measure warrants a subsequent referral to the Joint Committee on Ways and Means for consideration of its budgetary impact on the HCSD Other Funds appropriation.