

House Bill 3868

Sponsored by Representative HELM; Representatives GAMBA, OWENS

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**. The statement includes a measure digest written in compliance with applicable readability standards.

Digest: Tells ODOE to do a study to compare the avoided costs paid under PURPA against the costs paid by IOUs to have clean power plants. (Flesch Readability Score: 63.0).

Requires the State Department of Energy to study avoided costs paid to qualifying facilities under the federal Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act compared with the costs incurred by investor-owned utilities to acquire or maintain renewable energy generation facilities. Directs the department to submit its findings to the interim committees of Legislative Assembly related to energy no later than September 15, 2026.

Requires state agencies, to the extent permitted by laws relating to confidentiality, to furnish information and advice necessary for the department to complete the study.

Sunsets January 2, 2027.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to costs for acquiring renewable energy.

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

4 **SECTION 1. (1) The State Department of Energy shall conduct a study to:**

5 **(a) Quantify and compare the costs:**

6 **(A) Approved by the Public Utility Commission and incurred or to be incurred by**
7 **investor-owned utilities in this state for acquiring or maintaining renewable energy gener-**
8 **ation facilities; and**

9 **(B) Paid by investor-owned utilities to qualifying facilities under the terms of the Public**
10 **Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 2601 et. seq.);**

11 **(b) Further examine and develop the findings on the costs of small-scale renewable en-**
12 **ergy projects developed by the work group convened pursuant to section 18, chapter 508,**
13 **Oregon Laws 2021; and**

14 **(c) Analyze the accuracy of avoided cost schedules over time comparing the avoided costs**
15 **under contract terms with the costs actually paid under the contracts.**

16 **(2) All agencies of state government, as defined in ORS 174.111, are directed, to the ex-**
17 **tent permitted by laws relating to confidentiality, to furnish such information and advice to**
18 **the department as the department considers necessary to complete the study under this**
19 **section.**

20 **(3) The department shall submit a report in the manner provided by ORS 192.245, and**
21 **may include recommendations for legislation, to the interim committees of the Legislative**
22 **Assembly related to energy no later than September 15, 2026.**

23 **SECTION 2. Section 1 of this 2025 Act is repealed on January 2, 2027.**

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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.