

I am writing in support of HB 3546, the POWER Act. It seems to me a sensible way to ensure that large for-profit electricity consumers, such as data centers or cryptocurrency, pay for the costs associated with meeting the extra demand they are placing on the electrical grid. These expenses should not be distributed to all the customers of the electricity providers, such as Portland General Electric, which serves my home. As I write this my wife and I are replacing our natural gas appliances (furnace, water heater) with electrical ones to reduce our carbon footprint and help combat climate change. I am happy to pay for the increase in our electricity consumption, but not to underwrite costs for upgrading the grid to serve the needs of data centers, cryptocurrency, or other massive electricity consumers. HB 3546 provides a way to ensure that these large consumers bear their fair share of the costs of electricity as part of their doing business in Oregon, rather than passing those costs along to ordinary customers of the electric utilities.