

HB 4077 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment

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Meeting Dates: 2/10, 2/12

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure adds a public utility associated with a self-insurance or captive insurance program to the public utilities which, upon approval by the Public Utility Commission, are authorized to issue bonds and securitize debt for costs and expenses incurred or to be incurred. Takes effect on the 91st day following adjournment sine die.

- *FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact*
- *REVENUE: No revenue impact*

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Provisions of the measure

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

The Oregon Public Utility Commission (PUC) regulates investor-owned electric and natural gas utilities providing service to ensure they offer safe and reliable energy at reasonable rates. All regulated electric and natural gas utilities must seek PUC approval for all rate and service schedules, or tariffs. According to the International Monetary Fund, “securitization is the process in which certain types of assets are pooled so that they can be repackaged into interest-bearing securities.” House Bill 3143 (2023) authorized a public utility, upon approval by the PUC, to issue bonds and securitize debt for costs and expenses incurred or to be incurred by a public utility associated with events subject to a federal or state declaration of emergency.