

**REVENUE IMPACT OF
PROPOSED LEGISLATION
Seventy-Eighth Oregon Legislative
Assembly
2015 Regular Session
Legislative Revenue Office**

**Bill Number: HB 3257
Revenue Area: Utility surcharges
Economist: Mazen Malik
Date: 03-30-2015**

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

Measure Description:

Extends sunset on collection of certain moneys from electric companies or Oregon Community Power for purposes related to low-income electric bill payment assistance.

Revenue Impact: \$10 million in other funds for the 2015-17 biennium. The revenue collected will be for only one biennium, the surcharge sunsets at the end of 2017.

Impact Explanation:

Senate Bill 863 (2011) directed the Public Utility Commission to collect \$5 million per year for the low-income assistance program (bill payment) in the event certain criteria were met as of January 1, 2014. This measure was set to sunset on January 2, 2014. House Bill 2004 (2013) extended the sunset date to January 2, 2016. This measure (House Bill 3257) would extend the sunset date until January 2, 2018. The Oregon Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) is federally-funded through the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and is designed to help low-income households with home heating costs. To be eligible to receive assistance, a household's income must be at or below 60 percent of Oregon's median income, based on household income and household size. Recipients must also have documented energy costs. The program in Oregon is administered by the Department of Housing and Community Services (OHCS).

Creates, Extends, or Expands Tax Expenditure: Yes No