

Legislative Fiscal Office

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Joint Committee on Ways and Means

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To: Transportation and Economic Development Subcommittee

From: Michael Graham, Legislative Fiscal Office

Date: June 15, 2021

Subject: HB 3141 – Relating to energy
Work Session Recommendations

House Bill 3141, as amended by the -A4 amendments, increases the expenditure limitation of the Housing and Community Services Department (HCSD) by \$9,751,584 Other Funds in the 2021-23 biennium to expand the Energy Conservation Helping Oregonians (ECHO) weatherization program by allowing funding for manufactured housing replacement and changing energy sources from bulk fuels to electricity sources. The measure reduces the public purpose charge for electricity consumers from 3 percent to 1.5 percent. Electric companies or Oregon Community Power must collect a public purpose charge equal to 1.5 percent of total revenues collected from retail electricity consumers for electricity services for low-income electric bill payment and crisis assistance to be paid into the Low-Income Electric Bill Payment Assistance Fund until January 1, 2036. The measure changes how the public purpose charge is allocated, which is expected to result in a higher percentage of public purpose charge revenues being allocated to the ECHO program and the Housing Development Grant Program (HDGP). Revenue will be generated from the public purpose charge assessed on the revenues of utility companies. The measure has various operative and sunset dates and takes effect on the 91st day following adjournment *sine die*.

A preliminary staff measure summary and a fiscal impact statement are available on the Oregon Legislative Information System (OLIS). The estimated fiscal impact to HCSD is \$9,751,584 Other Funds and 3 positions (2.64 FTE) in the 2021-23 biennium and \$12,975,284 Other Funds and 3 positions (3.00 FTE) the 2023-25 biennium.

The measure was heard in the House Committee on Energy and Environment on February 22, 2021, March 10, 2021, and March 17, 2021, and was reported out with a do pass recommendation, as amended, and referred to the Joint Committee on Ways and Means.

Recommended Changes

The -A4 amendment increases HCSD's expenditure limitation in 2021-23 by LFO recommends adoption of the -A4 amendment.

Final Subcommittee Action

LFO recommends that HB 3141, as amended by the -A4 amendment, be moved to the Ways and Means Full Committee.

Carriers

Full Committee: _____

House Floor: _____

Senate Floor: _____