

HB 2739 C BUDGET REPORT and MEASURE SUMMARY

Carrier: Sen. Beyer

Senate Committee On Rules

Action Date: 06/26/21

Action: Do pass with amendments to the B-Eng bill to resolve conflicts. (Printed C-Eng.)

Senate Vote

Yeas: 3 - Burdick, President Courtney, Wagner

Nays: 2 - Girod, Thatcher

Exc: 1 - Manning Jr

Prepared By: Ali Webb, Department of Administrative Services

Reviewed By: Michelle Deister, Legislative Fiscal Office

**Housing and Community Services Department
2021-23**

Budget Summary

	2019-21	2021 - 23	2021-23	Committee Change from 2019-21	
	Legislatively Approved Budget ⁽¹⁾	Current Service Level	Committee Recommendation	Committee Change from 2019-21 Leg. Approved	
				\$ Change	% Change
Other Funds Limited	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 15,000,000	\$ 15,000,000	100.0%
Total	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 15,000,000	\$ 15,000,000	100.0%

Position Summary

Authorized Positions	0	0	1	1
Full-time Equivalent (FTE) positions	0.00	0.00	0.88	0.88

⁽¹⁾ Includes adjustments through January 2021

Summary of Revenue Changes

HB 2739 increases Other Funds expenditure limitation by \$15,000,000, for the Housing and Community Services Department (HCSD) in the 2021-23 biennium, to expand the Oregon Energy Assistance Program (OEAP), which is the low-income electric bill payment assistance program. Funding for the HCSD program expansion is from a charge assessed on electric utility customers. The measure instructs the Public Utility Commission (PUC) to increase the charge rate for the low-income assistance fund any time the projected or actual charge rates do not achieve a \$20 million calendar year threshold. In addition, the measure directs electric companies to collect an additional \$10 million per calendar year to assist households affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. The additional revenue collection provisions related to the COVID-19 pandemic are effective for the period from January 1, 2022 through January 1, 2024.

Summary of Transportation and Economic Development Subcommittee Action

House Bill 2739 provides \$15,000,000 Other Funds expenditure limitation to HCSD in the 2021-23 biennium, for the administration of the OEAP, as well as for the utility assistance payments to households. To administer the program, HCSD will require one limited duration Administrative Specialist 2 position (0.88 FTE) in the 2021-23 biennium. Administrative costs in the 2021-23 biennium include personal services costs estimated at \$63,981 Other Funds, as well as services and supplies costs estimated at \$11,417 Other Funds. Special payments costs for utility assistance payments in the 2021-23 biennium are estimated at \$14,924,602 Other Funds. HCSD believes it will need to continue the limited duration position into the 2023-25 biennium for nine months, resulting in personal services costs of \$27,421 Other Funds, along with services and supplies costs of \$7,374 Other Funds. The special payments costs for utility payment assistance to households in the 2023-25 biennium is projected at \$4,965,205 Other Funds.

The bill will create a minimal fiscal impact for PUC, which can be met with existing resources.

DETAIL OF JOINT COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS ACTION

Housing and Community Services Department
 Ali Webb - 503-400-4747

DESCRIPTION	GENERAL FUND	LOTTERY FUNDS	OTHER FUNDS		FEDERAL FUNDS		TOTAL ALL FUNDS	POS	FTE
			LIMITED	NONLIMITED	LIMITED	NONLIMITED			
<u>SUBCOMMITTEE ADJUSTMENTS</u>									
SCR 010 - Housing Stabilization Programs									
Personal Services	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 63,981	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 63,981	1	0.88
Services and Supplies	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 11,417	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 11,417		
Special Payments	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 14,924,602	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 14,924,602		
TOTAL ADJUSTMENTS	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 15,000,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 15,000,000	1	0.88
SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 15,000,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 15,000,000	1	0.88