

House Bill 2507

Sponsored by Representative MARSH (Pre-session filed.)

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**.

Decouples Oregon Telephone Assistance Program from funding offered by Federal Communications Commission.

Modifies sunset provisions applicable to Oregon Telephone Assistance Program.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to Residential Service Protection Fund; amending sections 6 and 16, chapter 290, Oregon
3 Laws 1987.

4 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

5 **SECTION 1.** Section 6, chapter 290, Oregon Laws 1987, as amended by section 1, chapter 622,
6 Oregon Laws 1991, section 1, chapter 29, Oregon Laws 2007, section 25, chapter 599, Oregon Laws
7 2009, section 1, chapter 77, Oregon Laws 2011, section 1, chapter 29, Oregon Laws 2013, and section
8 1, chapter 91, Oregon Laws 2019, is amended to read:

9 **Sec. 6.** (1) In carrying out the provisions of section 2, chapter 290, Oregon Laws 1987, and to
10 support broadband internet access service, the Public Utility Commission shall establish a plan to
11 provide assistance to low income customers through differential rates or otherwise. The plan of as-
12 sistance [*is*] **may be** in addition to the available funding offered by the Federal Communications
13 Commission. The plan established by the Public Utility Commission shall prescribe the amount of
14 assistance to be provided and the time and manner of payment.

15 (2) For the purpose of establishing a plan to provide assistance to low income customers under
16 this section, the commission shall require all public utilities, cooperative corporations and
17 unincorporated associations providing local exchange telecommunication service to participate in
18 the plan, except as provided in subsection (3) of this section.

19 (3) In lieu of participation in the commission's plan to assist low income customers, a public
20 utility, cooperative corporation or unincorporated association providing local exchange telecommu-
21 nication service may apply to the commission to establish an alternative plan for the purposes of
22 carrying out the provisions of section 2, chapter 290, Oregon Laws 1987, and supporting broadband
23 internet access service for its own customers. The commission shall adopt standards for determining
24 the adequacy of alternative plans.

25 (4) The commission may contract with any governmental agency to assist the commission in the
26 administration of any assistance plan adopted pursuant to this section.

27 (5) As used in sections 2 to 6, chapter 290, Oregon Laws 1987, "low income customer" has the
28 meaning given that term by the commission by rule.

29 **SECTION 2.** Section 16, chapter 290, Oregon Laws 1987, as amended by section 4, chapter 622,
30 Oregon Laws 1991, section 1, chapter 481, Oregon Laws 1997, section 1, chapter 408, Oregon Laws
31 2001, section 1, chapter 544, Oregon Laws 2009, and section 4, chapter 434, Oregon Laws 2017 is

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter [*italic and bracketed*] is existing law to be omitted.
New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 amended to read:

2 **Sec. 16.** [(1)(a) Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 15, chapter 290, Oregon Laws 1987, are repealed on
3 January 1, 2023.]

4 [(b) Section 6, chapter 290, Oregon Laws 1987, as amended by section 1, chapter 622, Oregon Laws
5 1991, section 1, chapter 29, Oregon Laws 2007, section 25, chapter 599, Oregon Laws 2009, section 1,
6 chapter 77, Oregon Laws 2011, and section 1, chapter 29, Oregon Laws 2013, is repealed on January
7 1, 2023.]

8 [(c) Section 2, chapter 204, Oregon Laws 2005, as amended by section 359, chapter 70, Oregon Laws
9 2007, is repealed on January 1, 2023.]

10 [(2) Notwithstanding subsection (1) of this section, if the participation rate in the plan of assistance
11 established by the Public Utility Commission under section 6, chapter 290, Oregon Laws 1987, increases
12 to at least 26 percent between January 1, 2018, and January 1, 2023:]

13 [(a)] (1) Sections 1, 2, 3, 4[, 5] and 15, chapter 290, Oregon Laws 1987, are repealed on January
14 1, 2030.

15 **(2) Section 5, chapter 290, Oregon Laws 1987, as amended by section 104, chapter 356,
16 Oregon Laws 2017, is repealed on January 1, 2030.**

17 [(b)] (3) Section 6, chapter 290, Oregon Laws 1987, as amended by section 1, chapter 622, Oregon
18 Laws 1991, section 1, chapter 29, Oregon Laws 2007, section 25, chapter 599, Oregon Laws 2009,
19 section 1, chapter 77, Oregon Laws 2011, [and] section 1, chapter 29, Oregon Laws 2013, **section**
20 **1, chapter 91, Oregon Laws 2019, and section 1 of this 2021 Act,** is repealed on January 1, 2030.

21 [(c)] (4) Section 2, chapter 204, Oregon Laws 2005, as amended by section 359, chapter 70,
22 Oregon Laws 2007, is repealed on January 1, 2030.

23