

HB 2066 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment

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Meeting Dates: 2/6

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure requires the Oregon Public Utility Commission to conduct an investigation to establish a regulatory framework for allowing the ownership, deployment, and use of microgrids and community microgrids.

Detailed summary:

Defines terms. Requires the Oregon Public Utility Commission (OPUC) to conduct an investigation to establish a regulatory framework for allowing the ownership, deployment, and use of microgrids and community microgrids. Outlines the requirements of the investigation. Outlines the methodology for compensating an owner, subscriber, or developer of a microgrid or community microgrid for the value that the microgrid or community microgrid provides. Requires OPUC to consult with appropriate local, state, and federal agencies in conducting the investigation. Takes effect on the 91st day following adjournment sine die.

- *FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, but no statement issued yet*
- *REVENUE: May have revenue impact, but no statement issued yet*

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

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. Oregon law allows the OPUC to approve a rate if the government enacts or adopts an ordinance, charter provision, resolution, or other regulation requiring that retail electricity consumers within the boundaries of the government must be served with resources such as energy from community-based resources, including microgrids, among others, that provide community co-benefits (Oregon Revised Statute 757.603).

According to the U.S. Department of Energy's Grid Deployment Office, microgrids can be comprised of various electricity-generation sources, including fossil- or renewable-based sources; can include battery energy storage of various sizes; and have control systems that allow them to be disconnected and reconnected to the main grid as needed.