

HB 2370 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment

Prepared By: Erin Pischke, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 1/30, 4/1

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure increases the annual fee amount that the Oregon Public Utility Commission may impose on public utilities from 0.45 percent to **0.55 percent** of the utility's gross operating revenues derived within Oregon in the preceding calendar year.

Fiscal impact: *Has fiscal impact*

Revenue impact: *No revenue impact*

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Potential total amount generated from larger percentage collected from gross operating revenues
- Potential uses of annual fees
- Level of support from entities that are assessed fee

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

The Oregon Public Utility Commission (PUC) is a three-member commission appointed by the governor and responsible for regulating Oregon's investor-owned electric, natural gas, and telephone utilities and select water companies. Current statute requires each public utility and telecommunications provider to pay an annual fee to the PUC to defray the costs of regulating the industry. The PUC collects fees from three investor-owned electric utilities, three natural gas utilities, roughly 80 regulated water utilities, and several hundred telecommunication utilities. These annual fees fund the majority of the PUC's operating expenditures.