

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

HB 5034

Public Utility Commission

To:	Ways and Means Full Committee
From:	Transportation and Economic Development Subcommittee
Carrier:	Representative Gomberg

HB 5034 is the budget bill for the Public Utility Commission.

The Public Utility Commission of Oregon regulates private utilities' rates and services, primarily funded by fees charged to energy and water utilities and telecommunications providers, with some federal funding.

The Transportation and Economic Development Subcommittee recommends a 2025-27 budget of \$130,347,897 total funds and 146 positions. This is a 3.3% increase over the current service level budget.

The budget includes \$2.1 million to complete the implementation of the new Activity and Dockets System and to begin replacing the 25-year-old Residential Service Protection Fund database. The budget also adds five permanent positions to support expanded oversight and communications related to utility wildfire mitigation activities.

Finally, the budget includes a \$20 increase to the Oregon Board of Maritime Pilots' operating fee, allowing the Board to maintain an estimated three-month operating reserve.

The Transportation and Economic Development Subcommittee recommends HB 5034 be amended by the –1 amendment and be reported out do pass, as amended.