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To: Capital Construction Subcommittee

From: Michael Graham, Legislative Fiscal Office

Date: June 16, 2025

Subject: HB 3148 – Relating to the availability of residential telecommunication services for low-income customers
Work Session Recommendations

HB 3148 renames the Public Utility Commission's (PUC) low-income telecommunications plan of assistance the "Oregon Lifeline plan." The measure expands the Oregon Lifeline plan to include a one-time personal computing device benefit of \$100 for eligible low-income customers to purchase a new or used Internet-enabled computing device (i.e., desktop, laptop, or tablet). PUC may contract with third parties to assist in providing computing device benefits, including bulk purchasing of personal computing or ancillary devices. In addition, the measure removes the January 1, 2030, sunset date for the Oregon Lifeline plan; repeals the Oregon Telephone Assistance Program (OTAP) Advisory Committee and its oversight responsibilities; and repeals the requirement that PUC spend funds in the Residential Service Protection Fund (RSPF) on marketing and outreach for the Oregon Lifeline plan.

The fiscal impact of the measure is \$1,977,012 Other Funds and one position (0.92 FTE) to administer and recommend priorities and strategies for the Oregon Lifeline plan to achieve state goals.

Amendment

The –A3 amendment caps the one-time personal computing device benefit at \$100 per benefit recipient. The –A3 amendment also increases PUC's expenditure limitation for RSPF by \$1,977,012 Other Funds in the 2025-27 biennium for the Oregon Lifeline plan. LFO recommends adoption of the –A3 amendment.

MOTION: I move adoption of the –A3 amendment to HB 3148. *(vote)*

Final Subcommittee Action

LFO recommends that HB 3148, as amended by the –A3 amendment, be moved to the Ways and Means Full Committee.

MOTION: I move HB 3148, as amended, to the Full Committee with a do pass recommendation. *(vote)*

Carriers

Full Committee: _____

House Floor: _____

Senate Floor: _____