



Legislative Fiscal Office  
83<sup>rd</sup> Oregon Legislative Assembly  
2025 Regular Session

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**Bill Title:** Relating to consumer protection for utility ratepayers.

**Government Unit(s) Affected:** Housing and Community Services Department, Public Utility Commission

**Summary of Fiscal Impact**

2025-27 Biennium	General Fund	Lottery Funds	Other Funds	Federal Funds	Total Funds	Positions	FTE
Housing and Community Services Department	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 20,000,000	\$ -	\$ 20,000,000	-	-
<b>Total Fiscal Impact</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 20,000,000</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 20,000,000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

2027-29 Biennium	General Fund	Lottery Funds	Other Funds	Federal Funds	Total Funds	Positions	FTE
Housing and Community Services Department	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-	-
<b>Total Fiscal Impact</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

**Measure Description**

The measure increases the annual minimum amount collected by electric companies for low-income electric bill payment and crisis assistance from \$20 million to \$40 million. Funds collected under this requirement are directed to the Housing and Community Services Department (HCSD) and deposited into the Low-Income Electric Bill Payment Assistance Fund. These funds must be used for bill payment and crisis assistance for low-income households and for HCSD's program administrative costs.

The measure directs the Public Utility Commission (PUC) to set customer rates to meet the minimum collection requirement and reassess the level of need and electricity rate changes every two years. If PUC increases the total amount to be collected by more than 2.5 percent, the Commission must report to the Legislature within 30 days, including findings and the new collection amount. PUC must also ensure no customer pays more than \$1,000 per month, per customer site, toward this assistance program.

**Fiscal Analysis**

The estimated fiscal impact is \$20 million Other Funds in the 2025-27 biennium.

Housing and Community Services Department

There is a fiscal impact to HCSD of \$20,000,000 Other Funds as a result of this measure. HCSD distributes funding from the Low-Income-Electric Bill Payment Assistance Fund to contracted local service providers, who administer financial assistance to eligible low-income Oregonians in accordance with program rules. Additional expenditure authority will be required to allow HCSD to distribute additional funds resulting from the higher collection threshold established by the measure. No additional administrative expenses to HCSD are anticipated because of this measure.

## **FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION**

**Measure: HB 3792 - A**

### Public Utility Commission

There is anticipated to be minimal impact on Public Utility Commission.

### **Relevant Dates**

The measure takes effect on January 1, 2026.