

House Bill 3159

Sponsored by Representative CATE (Pre-session filed.)

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**. The statement includes a measure digest written in compliance with applicable readability standards.

Digest: Limits the amount by which a public utility may increase a rate or schedule of rates in a year. (Flesch Readability Score: 67.3).

Limits the maximum percentage by which a public utility may increase a rate or schedule of rates in a calendar year to the average percentage change of the Consumer Price Index.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to public utility rates.

3 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

4 **SECTION 1. Section 2 of this 2025 Act is added to and made a part of ORS chapter 757.**

5 **SECTION 2. (1) The Public Utility Commission may not approve for a public utility an**
6 **increase of a rate or schedule of rates that is:**

7 **(a) Greater than the maximum percentage increase allowed for the calendar year under**
8 **subsection (2) of this section; or**

9 **(b) When added to any increases of a rate or schedule of rates that the commission**
10 **previously approved for the calendar year, greater than the maximum percentage increase**
11 **allowed for the calendar year under subsection (2) of this section.**

12 **(2) The maximum percentage that a public utility may increase a public utility's rate or**
13 **schedule of rates for a calendar year is the September annual 12-month average change in**
14 **the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers, West Region (All Items), as most re-**
15 **cently published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the United States Department of Labor.**

16 **(3) No later than September 30 of each year, the commission shall publish the maximum**
17 **percentage increase allowed for the following calendar year under subsection (2) of this sec-**
18 **tion.**

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NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter [*italic and bracketed*] is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.