

HB 3792-3
(LC 3599)
3/20/25 (CPA/ps)

Requested by Representative ANDERSEN

**PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO
HOUSE BILL 3792**

1 In line 2 of the printed bill, after “ratepayers” insert “; amending ORS
2 757.698”.

3 Delete lines 4 through 8 and insert:

4 **“SECTION 1.** ORS 757.698 is amended to read:

5 “757.698. (1) An electric company, as defined in ORS 757.600, or Oregon
6 Community Power shall collect funds for low-income electric bill payment
7 and crisis assistance in an amount determined by the Public Utility Com-
8 mission. The commission shall:

9 “(a) Establish the amount to be collected and rates to be charged by each
10 electric company from its customers, including customers receiving electric-
11 ity from other sources, such that the forecasted collection by all electric
12 companies in a calendar year is at least [\$20] **\$40 million. Every two years,**
13 **the commission shall reassess and may adjust the amount to be col-**
14 **lected and rates to be charged based on changes to electricity rates**
15 **during the prior two years and report to the Legislative Assembly if**
16 **the commission increases the amount to be collected by more than 2.5**
17 **percent.**

18 “(b) Adjust the rates if forecasted collections or actual collections are less
19 than [\$20] **\$40 million in any calendar year but shall not otherwise adjust**
20 **the rates once set, except as otherwise provided in paragraph (a) of this**
21 **subsection.**

1 “(c) *Ensure that no customer pays more than \$500 per month per customer*
2 *site for low-income electric bill payment and crisis assistance.*]

3 **“(c) Establish a cap that is no less than \$500 per month per cus-**
4 **tomer site on the amount that a customer may be charged for low-**
5 **income electric bill payment and crisis assistance. If the commission**
6 **reassesses and adjusts the amount to be collected and rates to be**
7 **charged under paragraph (a) of this subsection, the commission may**
8 **revise the cap as the commission finds necessary.**

9 “(2) Funds collected by an electric company or Oregon Community Power
10 under this section must be:

11 “(a) Paid into the Housing and Community Services Department Low-
12 Income Electric Bill Payment Assistance Fund established by ORS 456.587
13 (2);

14 “(b) Used by the Housing and Community Services Department solely for
15 purposes related to low-income electric bill payment and crisis assistance and
16 for the Housing and Community Services Department’s cost of administering
17 this section; and

18 “(c) Expended in the service area of the electric company or Oregon
19 Community Power from which the funds are collected.

20 “(3) The Housing and Community Services Department shall determine
21 the manner in which funds collected under this section are allocated by the
22 department to energy assistance program providers for the purpose of pro-
23 viding low-income electric bill payment and crisis assistance. However, the
24 department shall:

25 “(a) In consultation with electric companies, investigate and may imple-
26 ment alternative delivery models to effectively reduce service disconnections
27 and related costs to customers and electric companies; and

28 “(b) Direct priority assistance to low-income customers who are in danger
29 of having their electricity service disconnected.

30 “(4) The department shall maintain records and provide those records

1 upon request to an electric company, Oregon Community Power and the
2 Citizens' Utility Board established under ORS chapter 774 on a quarterly
3 basis. Records maintained must include the numbers of low-income customers
4 served, the average amounts paid and the type of assistance provided. Elec-
5 tric companies and Oregon Community Power shall, if requested, provide the
6 department with aggregate data relating to low-income customers served on
7 a quarterly basis to support program development.

8 “(5) Interest on moneys deposited in the Housing and Community Services
9 Department Low-Income Electric Bill Payment Assistance Fund established
10 by ORS 456.587 (2) may be used to provide bill payment and crisis assistance
11 to customers whose primary source of heat is not electricity.

12 “(6) Notwithstanding ORS 757.310, the commission may allow an electric
13 company or Oregon Community Power to provide reduced rates or other bill
14 payment or crisis assistance or low-income program assistance to a low-
15 income household eligible for assistance under the federal Low Income Home
16 Energy Assistance Act of 1981, as amended and in effect on July 23, 1999.”.