

Requested by Senator GORSEK

**PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO  
SENATE BILL 759**

1 In line 2 of the printed bill, after “projects” insert “; and prescribing an  
2 effective date”.

3 Delete lines 4 through 10 and insert:

4 **“SECTION 1. (1) As used in this section:**

5 **“(a) ‘Eligible infrastructure project’ means a public infrastructure**  
6 **improvement project that increases electric grid and energy inde-**  
7 **pendence and resilience through energy and cost savings for an eligible**  
8 **public body.**

9 **“(b) ‘Eligible public body’ means:**

10 **“(A) A school district.**

11 **“(B) A tribal government.**

12 **“(c) ‘School district’ means a common or a union high school dis-**  
13 **trict, an education service district or a community college district.**

14 **“(d) ‘Tribal government’ means the governing body of a federally**  
15 **recognized Indian tribe located in this state.**

16 **“(2) The State Department of Energy shall establish a loan loss re-**  
17 **serve program to provide loans and grants to eligible public bodies to**  
18 **support the development of eligible infrastructure projects in rural and**  
19 **underserved communities in this state.**

20 **“(3) The purpose of the program is to support eligible public bodies’**  
21 **efforts to:**

1       “(a) Keep current on infrastructure loan payments in order to pro-  
2       tect and enhance eligible public bodies’ access to credit for developing  
3       eligible infrastructure projects;

4       “(b) Access grants, interest rate buydowns and other downpayment  
5       assistance in order to increase the economic feasibility of developing  
6       and completing eligible infrastructure projects; and

7       “(c) Develop a proficient and local contractor base in order to en-  
8       courage economic development and family-wage job opportunities for  
9       community members.

10       “(4) An eligible public body may apply to the department to enroll  
11       an eligible infrastructure project into the program. For an eligible  
12       infrastructure project to qualify for enrollment, an eligible public body  
13       must:

14       “(a) Apply to enroll an eligible infrastructure project prior to com-  
15       mencing the project; and

16       “(b) Use only contractors or grant writers that are prequalified  
17       under the program.

18       “(5)(a) Under the program, an eligible public body that is unable to  
19       make a payment on a construction or financing loan of an enrolled  
20       eligible infrastructure project may request to have the program cover  
21       the loan payment.

22       “(b) If the department approves the request, the department shall  
23       use moneys in the Public Infrastructure Project Loan Loss Reserve  
24       Fund established under section 2 of this 2025 Act to cover the loan  
25       payment.

26       “(c) Moneys that are used to cover a loan payment on behalf of an  
27       eligible public body shall be in the form of a loan from the program  
28       to the eligible public body. The interest on the loan for the first 180  
29       days of the loan shall be zero. After the first 180 days of the loan, the  
30       interest on the loan shall be charged at the prime rate plus one per-

1 cent.

2 “(d) Moneys that an eligible public body pays to the program on a  
3 loan made from the program to the eligible public body, including  
4 payments and interest, shall be deposited into the fund.

5 “(6) Under the program, the department may make available from  
6 earnings received on moneys in the Public Infrastructure Project Loan  
7 Loss Reserve Fund grants to eligible public bodies to be used for grant  
8 writing, interest rate buydowns and other downpayment assistance for  
9 eligible infrastructure projects.

10 “(7) The department shall adopt rules to administer the program  
11 established under this section. Rules adopted under this section must  
12 include:

13 “(a) A methodology and criteria for reviewing and approving appli-  
14 cations to enroll eligible infrastructure projects;

15 “(b) A methodology and criteria for reviewing and approving loan  
16 and grants requests by eligible public bodies;

17 “(c) A methodology for accounting for moneys dispersed or col-  
18 lected; and

19 “(d) A methodology and criteria for prequalifying contractors, in-  
20 cluding contractors that meet the requirements under ORS 332.361,  
21 and grant writers.

22 “SECTION 2. (1) The Public Infrastructure Project Loan Loss Re-  
23 serve Fund is established in the State Treasury, separate and distinct  
24 from the General Fund. Interest earned by the fund and any other  
25 earnings by the fund shall be credited to the fund.

26 “(2) The fund shall consist of:

27 “(a) Moneys appropriated by the Legislative Assembly for deposit  
28 in the fund;

29 “(b) Interest earned on moneys in the fund;

30 “(c) Payments, interest payments and other earnings received under

1 the loan loss reserve program established under section 1 of this 2025  
2 Act; and

3 “(d) Other moneys deposited in the fund from any source.

4 “(3) Moneys in the fund are continuously appropriated to the State  
5 Department of Energy for the purpose of covering loan payments and  
6 providing grants under the loan loss reserve program established un-  
7 der section 1 of this 2025 Act.

8 “SECTION 3. In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropri-  
9 ation, there is appropriated to the State Department of Energy, for the  
10 biennium beginning July 1, 2025, out of the General Fund, the amount  
11 of \$3,000,000 for deposit into the Public Infrastructure Project Loan  
12 Loss Reserve Fund established under section 2 of this 2025 Act.

13 “SECTION 4. (1) Section 1 of this 2025 Act becomes operative on  
14 November 1, 2026.

15 “(2) The State Department of Energy may adopt rules and take any  
16 other action before the operative date specified in subsection (1) of this  
17 section that is necessary for the department to exercise, on and after  
18 the operative date specified in subsection (1) of this section, all of the  
19 duties, functions and powers conferred on the department by section  
20 1 of this 2025 Act.

21 “SECTION 5. This 2025 Act takes effect on the 91st day after the  
22 date on which the 2025 regular session of the Eighty-third Legislative  
23 Assembly adjourns sine die.”.

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