

Submitter: Hal Anthony

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Commerce and Consumer Protection

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3792

Utility rate increases can be diminished and often eliminated through simple efficiency recoveries, where once-streamlined departments which have become redundant and bloated to a significant degree and are resized or removed altogether throughout the company, including inspection of all of its sub-departments and all company modalities.

Also please bear in mind the percentage of senior citizens in Oregon and throughout the U.S. has continuously risen in conjunction with its decreasing birthrate, and large percentages of seniors are 70% to 90% or more dependent on their Social Security check for survival. With increases in the long list of costs of living, some of those costs being outrageously high, the final sum is incrementally creating more and lower income citizens who are struggling to get by. Please remember the cumulative effect of these bills added over the year to folks who are either migrating to, or already at the edge of extreme poverty.

Ratepayers should always be protected from unnecessary increases on their utilities; and seniors should always have consumer protection from every major entity. Anything short of that always trends toward an unbridled "Caveat Emptor", benefiting a few and costing everybody, often long term.