Senate Bill 1044

Sponsored by Senator BEYER, Representative REARDON; Senator DEMBROW, Representatives EVANS, HELM, MARSH, NERON, SALINAS, SCHOUTEN (at the request of Forth, Oregon Environmental Council, Climate Solutions, Portland General Electric)

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.**

Establishes goals that promote zero-emission vehicle use and requires entities of executive department to promote zero-emission vehicle use.

Requires State Department of Energy to assess market for zero-emission vehicles and report to Governor and Legislative Assembly certain information related to zero-emission vehicles.

Establishes certain requirements for purchases and leases of zero-emission vehicles for state fleet purchases or leases.

Authorizes public utilities to submit public benefit proposals to recover in rates no more than \$500,000 per year from customers of public utilities costs of installing electric vehicle charging stations.

Authorizes school districts to use public purpose charge moneys for school fleet audits, for purchase or lease of zero-emission vehicles and for purchase or installation of electric vehicle charging stations.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

- Relating to transportation electrification; creating new provisions; and amending ORS 276.255, 283.327, 283.337, 283.343, 757.355 and 757.612.
 - Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:
 - SECTION 1. (1) As used in this section, "zero-emission vehicle" means a battery electric vehicle, a plug-in hybrid electric vehicle or a hydrogen fuel cell vehicle or any type of vehicle defined by the State Department of Energy by rule as a "zero-emission vehicle" if the vehicle's type and fuel are consistent with the goals set forth in this section.
 - (2) The Legislative Assembly finds that:
 - (a) Motor vehicle emissions contribute significantly to air pollution in this state.
 - (b) In 2019, the Oregon transportation sector was responsible for approximately 40 percent of this state's greenhouse gas emissions.
 - (c) Motor vehicle emissions, especially greenhouse gases, are difficult to reduce and will rise over time if not limited by additional laws and regulations.
 - (d) Absent significant changes in the types of motor vehicles used by people and businesses in Oregon, the state will not meet the greenhouse gas emissions reduction goals set forth in ORS 468A.205.
 - (e) In ORS 757.357, the Legislative Assembly found that transportation electrification is necessary to reduce petroleum use, achieve optimum levels of energy efficiency and carbon reduction, meet federal and state air quality standards, meet this state's greenhouse gas emissions reduction goals set forth in ORS 468A.205 and improve the public health and safety.
 - (f) Existing federal and state incentives and programs are insufficient to transform the motor vehicle market on a timeline that will protect Oregonians from the worst impacts of

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- (g) The purchase and ownership of zero-emission vehicles can reduce the overall energy costs paid by Oregon households and the specific costs associated with meeting transportation needs.
- (h) A robust and well-operating market for zero-emission vehicles is essential to meeting this state's greenhouse gas emissions reduction goals.
 - (3) The Legislative Assembly declares the following goals:
 - (a) Transformation of the motor vehicle market must occur no later than 2035.
- (b) Programs and support must be provided to accelerate Oregonians' purchase and use of zero-emission vehicles until greenhouse gas emissions from vehicles are declining at a rate consistent with this state's greenhouse gas emissions reduction goals set forth in ORS 468A.205.
- (c) The adoption and use of zero-emission vehicles must be evaluated regularly to determine whether the rate of the adoption and use of zero-emission vehicles will put the state on course to meet its greenhouse gas emissions reduction goals.
- (4) All entities of the executive department, as defined in ORS 174.112, shall exert influence on the motor vehicle market by:
- (a) Purchasing or leasing light-duty or medium-duty zero-emission vehicles, consistent with ORS 283.327, when purchasing or leasing vehicles;
 - (b) Adopting policies and rules that promote the goals set forth in this section; and
- (c) Considering proposals submitted in the report required by ORS 469.059 that relate to zero-emission vehicles and adopting the proposals when feasible.
- SECTION 2. (1) In the report required by ORS 469.059, the State Department of Energy shall provide:
 - (a) An assessment of the market for zero-emission vehicles;
- (b) An assessment of the state's progress in promoting the goals set forth in section 1 of this 2019 Act; and
- (c) The date on which the state is predicted to meet the goals set forth in section 1 of this 2019 act.
- (2) The department may contract with third parties to perform assessments under subsection (1) of this section.
- (3) To assess the state's progress under subsection (1)(b) of this section, the department shall use the following ranked criteria:
- (a) First, an evaluation of whether the transportation sector is on course to reduce the transportation-related share of greenhouse gas emissions, consistent with the greenhouse gas emissions reduction goals set forth in ORS 268A.205.
- (b) Second, sales figures and numbers of zero-emission vehicles that are owned in Oregon, including forecasts as to whether:
 - (A) By 2020, 50,000 registered motor vehicles will be zero-emission vehicles;
 - (B) By 2025, 250,000 registered motor vehicles will be zero-emission vehicles;
- (C) By 2030, 25 percent of registered motor vehicles, and at least 50 percent of new motor vehicles sold annually, will be zero-emission vehicles; and
- (D) By 2035, 50 percent of registered motor vehicles, and at least 90 percent of new motor vehicles sold annually, will be zero-emission vehicles.
 - (c) Third, the availability and reliability of public and private electric vehicle charging

- infrastructure relative to the availability and reliability of electric vehicle charging infrastructure needed to support the targets for zero-emission vehicle sales and registration that are identified in subsection (3)(b) of this section.
- (d) Fourth, any incremental purchase cost difference, after federal and state incentives, between the purchase cost of a zero-emission vehicle and the purchase cost of a comparable vehicle capable of using alternative fuel.
- (e) Fifth, the zero-emission vehicles that are available for purchase in all market segments.
- (f) Sixth, Oregonians' awareness of motor vehicle options, the benefits of owning zeroemission vehicles and the true costs of motor vehicle ownership.
- (g) Seventh, the carbon intensity of fuel consumed by the Oregon transportation sector as a whole.
- (h) Eighth, the conversion of freight and mass transit in this state to zero-emission operations.
- (4) If the department determines that the state is not on course to meet the goals set forth in section 1 of this 2019 Act, the department shall recommend legislation for inclusion in the report required by ORS 469.059. The recommended legislation must promote the zero-emission vehicle market, encourage transportation electrification and further the goals set forth in section 1 of this 2019 Act.
- (5) As used in this section, "zero-emission vehicle" has the meaning given that term in section 1 of this 2019 Act.
 - **SECTION 3.** (1) As used in this section:

- (a) "Electric vehicle charging station" means:
- (A) Equipment that provides alternating or direct current to a battery electric vehicle or a plug-in hybrid electric vehicle; or
- (B) Infrastructure that supports the equipment identified in subparagraph (A) of this paragraph, such as wiring, conduit, concrete, electrical panel, switchgear, metering equipment, controls and directly connected distribution system infrastructure, or any combination thereof.
- (b) "Public benefit location" means real property that is owned, leased or controlled by a public body, as defined in ORS 174.109, and that contains at least 10 parking stalls for use by members of the public or by public vehicle fleets.
- (c) "Public benefit proposal" means a filing in which a public utility seeks to recover in rates the costs of installing electric vehicle charging stations at public benefit locations within the public utility's service territory.
 - (2) Under a public benefit proposal:
- (a) A public utility may not recover more than \$500,000 per year from all customers of the public utility for the costs of installing electric vehicle charging stations;
- (b) Amounts approved for inclusion in rates must allow for a reasonable rate of return on any investment;
- (c) The public utility may use a deferred accounting mechanism for capital investment; and
- (d) Costs that the public utility may recover include capital, construction, operation and maintenance costs.
 - (3)(a) In consultation with or at the request of a public body, a public utility may file a

public benefit proposal with the Public Utility Commission as a supplemental filing to an application that the public utility files under ORS 757.357 for a program to accelerate transportation electrification.

- (b) Notwithstanding ORS 757.357 (4), the commission shall approve a public benefit proposal if a public utility demonstrates that:
- (A) The public utility has consulted with the public body that owns, leases or controls the public benefit location and the public body finds that the electric vehicle charging station is an important component of accomplishing the goals set forth in section 1 of this 2019 Act or the requirements under ORS 283.327;
- (B) The public benefit proposal seeks to minimize overall costs and maximize overall benefits to utility customers from the public benefit proposal, such as by:
 - (i) Using multiple sources of funding to support the public benefit proposal;
- (ii) Using electric vehicle charging stations to contribute to the utility system through demand response programs or time-of-use pricing; or
 - (iii) Returning revenues from electric vehicle charging stations to utility customers;
- (C) The public benefit proposal is supported by data or analysis that indicates that an investment such as that proposed by the public benefit proposal can improve energy efficiency or travel, reduce environmental and health impacts from air pollution, reduce greenhouse gas emissions related to transportation, create high-quality jobs or provide other economic benefits; or
- (D) The public benefit proposal will not provide for recovery in excess of \$500,000 per year from all customers of the public utility for the costs of installing electric vehicle charging stations.
- (4) The commission shall take action on a public benefit proposal within 120 days after receipt unless the commission has good cause for delay. If the commission fails to take action on a public benefit proposal within 120 days, the commission shall provide the public utility with an explanation of the delay and an estimate of the additional time necessary to take action.
- (5) If the commission finds that a public benefit proposal fails to meet a criterion listed in subsection (2) of this section, the public utility may resubmit the public benefit proposal. The commission shall take action on the resubmitted public benefit proposal as described in subsection (4) of this section.
- **SECTION 4.** ORS 276.255, as amended by section 1, chapter 90, Oregon Laws 2018, is amended to read:
- 276.255. (1)(a) A state agency may locate, on premises the state agency owns or controls, devices or facilities that the state agency installs, or has installed, specifically to deliver electricity to the public for electric motor vehicles.
- (b) A state agency may contract with a vendor, including a public utility pursuant to section 3 of this 2019 Act, that will distribute, dispense or otherwise make available electricity from devices or facilities described in paragraph (a) of this subsection.
- (2)(a) The Oregon Department of Administrative Services may install or have installed devices or facilities described in subsection (1)(a) of this section in as many locations as are sufficient to meet demand for the devices or facilities.
- (b) The department by rule shall establish criteria by means of which a state agency shall determine an appropriate number of locations at which the state agency may install or have installed

devices or facilities described in subsection (1)(a) of this section.

- (c) Notwithstanding paragraph (b) of this subsection, a state agency may install or have installed devices or facilities described in subsection (1)(a) of this section at more than the number of locations determined in accordance with the department's rule if the state agency obtains a grant to support the installations at each additional location.
- (3) A state agency that contracts with a vendor under subsection (1)(b) of this section shall require in the contract that the vendor:
- (a) Indemnify the state agency against any claim related to or arising out of the vendor's operations on premises that the state agency owns or controls; and
- (b) Obtain a policy of liability insurance in an amount sufficient to pay foreseeable claims that relate to or arise out of the vendor's operations, name the state agency as an insured party in the policy and maintain coverage under the policy during the term of the contract and for two years after the contract term expires.
- (4) A state agency may by order establish and adjust prices for using devices or facilities described in subsection (1)(a) of this section that are located on premises the state agency owns or controls. The state agency shall set the price for using the devices or facilities at a level that:
- (a) Recovers to the maximum extent practicable the cost of operating and administering the devices or facilities described in subsection (1)(a) of this section; and
- (b) Does not exceed 110 percent of the average market price for delivering electricity to the public for the purpose described in subsection (1)(a) of this section in the county in which the device or facility is located.
- (5) Subject to subsection (4) of this section, a state agency shall set a uniform price for delivering electricity at devices and facilities located on premises that the state agency owns or controls. The state agency shall use criteria and a methodology that the department specifies for calculating the uniform price.
- (6) The department shall report to the Legislative Assembly in the manner provided by ORS 192.245 not later than February 1, 2019, February 1, 2021, and February 1, 2023, concerning state agency implementation of the authority granted in this section. Each report must, as of the date of the report:
- (a) List the number of devices or facilities for delivering electricity to the public for electric motor vehicles that state agencies installed or had installed in the previous two years and the total number of installations that have occurred since June 2, 2018;
- (b) List the number of devices or facilities that state agencies have planned for installation in the next two years;
 - (c) List the cost to the state agency of each installation and calculate:
 - (A) An average cost for installations that state agencies have completed or had completed; and
 - (B) An overall trend line for costs that state agencies have incurred;
- (d) Specify the current uniform price that each state agency charges under subsection (5) of this section and any changes in the uniform price that occurred in the previous two years;
- (e) Specify for each state agency an average rate of utilization for all of the devices or facilities located on premises that the state agency owns or controls, calculated as the ratio of the time each day during which a person is actually using the devices or facilities and the time each day in which the devices and facilities are available for use; and
- (f) Specify whether and to what extent using electric motor vehicles and devices or facilities located on premises that state agencies own or control to provide electricity for state agency elec-

tric motor vehicles results in a cost savings to the state agency in comparison to using motor vehicles that do not use electricity for propulsion.

SECTION 5. ORS 283.327 is amended to read:

283.327. (1)(a) Unless a state agency finds that it is not feasible for a zero-emission vehicle, as defined in section 1 of this 2019 Act, to meet the specific use for which a vehicle will be purchased or leased, the agency shall purchase or lease zero-emission vehicles for at least 25 percent of new light-duty state fleet purchases and leases, to the extent zero-emission vehicles are available.

- (b) If the agency finds that purchasing or leasing zero-emission vehicles is not feasible, the agency may purchase or lease light-duty or medium-duty vehicles that are capable of using alternative fuel and that meet the requirements established by the Comprehensive National Energy Policy Act of 1992 (P.L. 102-486).
- (c) If the agency finds that purchasing or leasing zero-emission vehicles is not feasible and that purchasing or leasing light-duty or medium-duty vehicles that are capable of using alternative fuel and that meet the requirements established by the Comprehensive National Energy Policy Act of 1992 (P.L. 102-486) is not feasible, the agency may purchase or lease vehicles that the Department of Environmental Quality has identified by rule as low-emission vehicles.
- [(1)] (2) To the maximum extent [economically possible] feasible, state-owned motor vehicles shall be zero-emission vehicles or use alternative fuel for operation.
- [(2) State agencies shall acquire only motor vehicles capable of using alternative fuel, except that acquired vehicles assigned to areas unable economically to dispense alternative fuel need not be so configured.]
- (3) A state agency that purchases or leases a vehicle that is not a zero-emission vehicle shall submit a report to the State Department of Energy that explains the reason for the purchase of an alternative fuel, hybrid or low-emission vehicle and demonstrates that a zero-emission vehicle was not feasible. To assess the feasibility of a zero-emission vehicle under this subsection, a state agency may not consider any incremental cost of a zero-emission vehicle over a comparable use vehicle. The State Department of Energy shall consult with the Oregon Department of Administrative Services to develop requirements for the reports required by this subsection.
- [(3)] (4) Each agency owning motor vehicles shall comply with all safety standards established by the United States Department of Transportation in the conversion, operation and maintenance of vehicles using alternative fuel.
- [(4)] (5) To the maximum extent economically possible, state-owned structures shall use biofuel, or direct-application electricity generated from biofuel, where diesel is currently utilized for stationary or back-up generation.

SECTION 6. ORS 283.327, as amended by section 5 of this 2019 Act, is amended to read:

283.327. (1)(a) Unless a state agency finds that it is not feasible for a zero-emission vehicle, as defined in section 1 of this 2019 Act, to meet the specific use for which a vehicle will be purchased or leased, [the agency shall purchase or lease zero-emission vehicles for at least 25 percent of new light-duty state fleet purchases and leases, to the extent zero-emission vehicles are available.] the agency shall purchase or lease zero-emission vehicles for all new light-duty and medium-duty state fleet purchases and leases.

(b) If the agency finds that purchasing or leasing zero-emission vehicles is not feasible, the

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agency may purchase or lease light-duty or medium-duty vehicles that are capable of using alternative fuel and that meet the requirements established by the Comprehensive National Energy Policy Act of 1992 (P.L. 102-486).

- (c) If the agency finds that purchasing or leasing zero-emission vehicles is not feasible and that purchasing or leasing light-duty or medium-duty vehicles that are capable of using alternative fuel and that meet the requirements established by the Comprehensive National Energy Policy Act of 1992 (P.L. 102-486) is not feasible, the agency may purchase or lease vehicles that the Department of Environmental Quality has identified by rule as low-emission vehicles.
- (2) To the maximum extent feasible, state-owned motor vehicles shall be zero-emission vehicles or use alternative fuel for operation.
- (3) A state agency that purchases or leases a vehicle that is not a zero-emission vehicle shall submit a report to the State Department of Energy that explains the reason for the purchase of an alternative fuel, hybrid or low-emission vehicle and demonstrates that a zero-emission vehicle was not feasible. To assess the feasibility of a zero-emission vehicle under this subsection, a state agency may not consider any incremental cost of a zero-emission vehicle over a comparable use vehicle. The State Department of Energy shall consult with the Oregon Department of Administrative Services to develop requirements for the reports required by this subsection.
- (4) Each agency owning motor vehicles shall comply with all safety standards established by the United States Department of Transportation in the conversion, operation and maintenance of vehicles using alternative fuel.
- (5) To the maximum extent economically possible, state-owned structures shall use biofuel, or direct-application electricity generated from biofuel, where diesel is currently utilized for stationary or back-up generation.

SECTION 7. ORS 283.337 is amended to read:

- 283.337. (1) Prior to December 31 of each year, each agency owning motor vehicles shall submit an annual report to the Department of Environmental Quality and the State Department of Energy. The report shall contain at a minimum:
 - [(1)] (a) The number of vehicles acquired that are capable of using alternative fuel;
 - [(2)] (b) The number of vehicles converted from the use of gasoline to the use of alternative fuel;
 - [(3)] (c) The [quantity] amount of each type of alternative fuel used in the vehicles; [and]
- (d) The number of zero-emission vehicles, as defined in section 1 of this 2019 Act, acquired;
 - (e) The amount of electricity used in the vehicles; and
 - [(4)] (f) Any other information required by the Department of Environmental Quality and the State Department of Energy.
 - (2) For purposes of the report, plug-in hybrid electric vehicles are not vehicles that are capable of using alternative fuel.

SECTION 8. ORS 283.343 is amended to read:

- 283.343. At least biennially, the Oregon Department of Administrative Services shall examine compliance with rules adopted pursuant to ORS 283.340 by state agencies owning vehicles. The department shall submit biennially to the Joint Legislative Audit Committee a management report on state-owned motor vehicles that includes:
- (1) Summaries of agency compliance examinations, with specific emphasis on noncomplying state agency fleets;
 - (2) Numbers of motor vehicles, listed by model and by state agency;

- (3) Mileage utilization of motor vehicles, listed by state agency;
 - (4) Operating cost per mile of motor vehicles, listed by state agency; and
- (5) Recommendations for increasing motor vehicle utilization, for decreasing the overall motor vehicle population, for increasing the percentage of zero-emission vehicles within the motor pool and agency fleets and for absorbing noncomplying state agency fleets into the motor pool.

SECTION 9. ORS 757.355 is amended to read:

757.355. (1) Except as provided in **section 3 of this 2019 Act and** subsection (2) of this section, a public utility may not, directly or indirectly, by any device, charge, demand, collect or receive from any customer rates that include the costs of construction, building, installation or real or personal property not presently used for providing utility service to the customer.

(2) The Public Utility Commission may allow rates for a water utility that include the costs of a specific capital improvement if the water utility is required to use the additional revenues solely for the purpose of completing the capital improvement.

SECTION 10. ORS 757.612 is amended to read:

757.612. (1) There is established an annual public purpose expenditure standard for electric companies and Oregon Community Power to fund new cost-effective energy conservation, new market transformation efforts, the above-market costs of new renewable energy resources and new low-income weatherization. The public purpose expenditure standard shall be funded by the public purpose charge described in subsection (2) of this section.

(2)(a) Beginning on the date an electric company or Oregon Community Power offers direct access to retail electricity consumers, except residential electricity consumers, the electric company or Oregon Community Power shall collect a public purpose charge from all of the retail electricity consumers located within the electric company's or Oregon Community Power's service area until January 1, 2026. Except as provided in paragraph (b) of this subsection, the public purpose charge shall be equal to three percent of the total revenues collected by the electric company, Oregon Community Power or the electricity service supplier from retail electricity consumers for electricity services, distribution services, ancillary services, metering and billing, transition charges and other types of costs included in electric rates on July 23, 1999.

- (b) For an aluminum plant that averages more than 100 average megawatts of electricity use per year, the electric company or Oregon Community Power, whichever serves territory that abuts the greatest percentage of the site of the aluminum plant, shall collect from the aluminum company a public purpose charge equal to one percent of the total revenue from the sale of electricity services to the aluminum plant from any source.
- (3)(a) The Public Utility Commission shall establish rules implementing the provisions of this section relating to electric companies and Oregon Community Power.
- (b) Except as provided in paragraph (e) of this subsection, funds collected through public purpose charges under subsection (2) of this section shall be allocated as follows:
- (A) Sixty-three percent for new cost-effective energy conservation and new market transformation efforts.
- (B) Nineteen percent for the above-market costs of constructing and operating new renewable energy resources with a nominal electric generating capacity, as defined in ORS 469.300, of 20 megawatts or less.
 - (C) Thirteen percent for new low-income weatherization.
- (D) Five percent for deposit in the Housing and Community Services Department Electricity Public Purpose Charge Fund established by ORS 456.587 (1) for the purpose of providing grants as

described in ORS 458.625 (2).

- (c) The costs of administering subsections (1) to (6) of this section for an electric company or Oregon Community Power shall be paid out of the funds collected through public purpose charges. The commission may require an electric company or Oregon Community Power to direct funds collected through public purpose charges to state agencies responsible for implementing subsections (1) to (6) of this section in order to pay the costs of administering subsections (1) to (6) of this section.
- (d) The commission shall direct the manner in which public purpose charges are collected and spent by an electric company or Oregon Community Power and may require an electric company or Oregon Community Power to expend funds through competitive bids or other means designed to encourage competition, except that funds dedicated for new low-income weatherization shall be directed to the Housing and Community Services Department for purposes related to new low-income weatherization. The commission may also require funds collected through public purpose charges to be paid to a nongovernmental entity for investment in public purposes described in subsection (1) of this section. Notwithstanding any other provision of this subsection:
- (A) If an electric company collected the funds, at least 80 percent of the funds allocated for new cost-effective energy conservation shall be spent within the service area of the electric company; or
- (B) If Oregon Community Power collected the funds, at least 80 percent of the funds allocated for new cost-effective energy conservation shall be spent within the service area of Oregon Community Power.
- (e)(A) The first 10 percent of funds collected each year by an electric company or Oregon Community Power under subsection (2) of this section shall be distributed to school districts that are located in the service territory of the electric company or Oregon Community Power. The funds shall be distributed to individual school districts according to the weighted average daily membership (ADMw) of each school district for the prior fiscal year as calculated under ORS 327.013. The commission shall establish by rule a methodology for distributing a proportionate share of funds under this paragraph to school districts that are only partially located in the service territory of the electric company or Oregon Community Power.
- (B) A school district that receives funds under this paragraph shall use the funds first to pay for energy **or fleet** audits for schools located within the school district. A school district may not expend additional funds received under this paragraph [on] **for** a school until an [energy] audit has been completed for that school. To the extent practicable, a school district shall coordinate with the State Department of Energy and incorporate federal funding in complying with this paragraph. Following completion of an [energy] audit for an individual school, the school district may expend funds received under this paragraph [to implement the energy audit] **for the school**. Once an [energy] audit has been conducted [and completely implemented] for each school within the school district, the school district may expend funds received under this paragraph for any of the following purposes:
- (i) Conducting additional energy **or fleet** audits. A school district shall conduct an energy audit prior to expending funds on any other purpose authorized under this paragraph unless the school district has:
- (I) Performed an energy audit within the three years immediately prior to receiving the funds[.]; \mathbf{or}
- (II) Performed a fleet audit at any time prior to receiving the funds and determined that the previous fleet audit is up to date.

- (ii) Weatherizing school district facilities and upgrading the energy efficiency of school district facilities.
 - (iii) Energy conservation education programs.
- (iv) Purchasing electricity from environmentally focused sources.
 - (v) Investing in renewable energy resources.

- (vi) Purchasing or leasing zero-emission vehicles, as defined in section 1 of this 2019 Act, including buses.
- (vii) Purchasing or installing electric vehicle charging stations, as defined in section 3 of this 2019 Act.
 - (f) The commission may not establish a different public purpose charge than the public purpose charge described in subsection (2) of this section.
 - (g) If the commission requires funds collected through public purpose charges to be paid to a nongovernmental entity, the entity shall:
 - (A) Include on the entity's board of directors an ex officio member designated by the commission, who shall also serve on the entity's nominating committee for filling board vacancies.
 - (B) Require the entity's officers and directors to provide an annual disclosure of economic interest to be filed with the commission on or prior to April 15 of each calendar year for public review in a form similar to the statement of economic interest required for public officials under ORS 244.060.
 - (C) Require the entity's officers and directors to declare actual and potential conflicts of interest at regular meetings of the entity's governing body when such conflicts arise, and require an officer or director to abstain from participating in any discussion or voting on any item where that officer or director has an actual conflict of interest. For the purposes of this subparagraph, "actual conflict of interest" and "potential conflict of interest" have the meanings given those terms in ORS 244.020.
 - (D) Annually, arrange for an independent auditor to audit the entity's financial statements, and direct the auditor to file an audit opinion with the commission for public review.
 - (E) Annually file with the commission the entity's budget, action plan and quarterly and annual reports for public review.
 - (F) At least once every five years, contract for an independent management evaluation to review the entity's operations, efficiency and effectiveness, and direct the independent reviewer to file a report with the commission for public review.
 - (h) The commission may remove from the board of directors of a nongovernmental entity an officer or director who fails to provide an annual disclosure of economic interest, or who fails to declare an actual or potential conflict of interest, as described in paragraph (g)(B) and (C) of this subsection, if the failure is connected to the allocation or expenditure of funds collected through public purpose charges and paid to the entity.
 - (4)(a) An electric company that satisfies its obligations under this section:
 - (A) Has no further obligation to invest in new cost-effective energy conservation, new market transformation or new low-income weatherization, or to provide a commercial energy conservation services program; and
 - (B) Is not subject to ORS 469.631 to 469.645 and 469.860 to 469.900.
 - (b) Oregon Community Power, for any period during which Oregon Community Power collects a public purpose charge under subsection (2) of this section:
 - (A) Has no further obligation to invest in new cost-effective energy conservation, new market transformation or new low-income weatherization, or to provide a commercial energy conservation

services program; and

- (B) Is not subject to ORS 469.631 to 469.645 and 469.860 to 469.900.
- (5)(a) A retail electricity consumer that uses more than one average megawatt of electricity at any site in the prior year shall receive a credit against public purpose charges billed by an electric company or Oregon Community Power for that site. The amount of the credit shall be equal to the total amount of qualifying expenditures for new cost-effective energy conservation, not to exceed 68 percent of the annual public purpose charges, and the above-market costs of new renewable energy resources incurred by the retail electricity consumer, not to exceed 19 percent of the annual public purpose charges, less administration costs incurred under this paragraph and paragraphs (b) and (c) of this subsection. The credit may not exceed, on an annual basis, the lesser of:
 - (A) The amount of the retail electricity consumer's qualifying expenditures; or
- (B) The portion of the public purpose charge billed to the retail electricity consumer that is dedicated to new cost-effective energy conservation, new market transformation or the above-market costs of new renewable energy resources.
- (b) To obtain a credit under paragraph (a) of this subsection, a retail electricity consumer shall file with the State Department of Energy a description of the proposed conservation project or new renewable energy resource and a declaration that the retail electricity consumer plans to incur the qualifying expenditure. The State Department of Energy shall issue a notice of precertification within 30 days of receipt of the filing, if such filing is consistent with paragraph (a) of this subsection. The credit may be taken after a retail electricity consumer provides a letter from a certified public accountant to the State Department of Energy verifying that the precertified qualifying expenditure has been made.
- (c) Credits earned by a retail electricity consumer as a result of qualifying expenditures that are not used in one year may be carried forward for use in subsequent years.
- (d)(A) A retail electricity consumer that uses more than one average megawatt of electricity at any site in the prior year may request that the State Department of Energy hire an independent auditor to assess the potential for conservation investments at the site. If the independent auditor determines there is no available conservation measure at the site that would have a simple payback of one to 10 years, the retail electricity consumer shall be relieved of 54 percent of its payment obligation for public purpose charges related to the site. If the independent auditor determines that there are potential conservation measures available at the site, the retail electricity consumer shall be entitled to a credit against public purpose charges related to the site equal to 54 percent of the public purpose charges less the estimated cost of available conservation measures.
- (B) A retail electricity consumer shall be entitled each year to the credit described in this paragraph unless a subsequent independent audit determines that new conservation investment opportunities are available. The State Department of Energy may require that a new independent audit be performed on the site to determine whether new conservation measures are available, provided that the independent audits occur no more than once every two years.
- (C) The retail electricity consumer shall pay the cost of the independent audits described in this paragraph.
- (6) Electric utilities and retail electricity consumers shall receive a fair and reasonable credit for the public purpose expenditures of their energy suppliers. The State Department of Energy shall adopt rules to determine eligible expenditures and the method by which such credits are accounted for and used. The State Department of Energy also shall adopt methods to account for eligible public purpose expenditures made through consortia or collaborative projects.

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- (7)(a) In addition to the public purpose charge provided under subsection (2) of this section, an electric company or Oregon Community Power shall collect funds for low-income electric bill payment assistance in an amount determined under paragraph (b) of this subsection.
- (b) The commission shall establish the amount to be collected by each electric company from retail electricity consumers, and the rates to be charged by each electric company to retail electricity consumers, so that the forecasted collection by all electric companies in calendar year 2018 is \$20 million. In subsequent calendar years, the commission may not decrease the rates below those established for calendar year 2018. The commission may temporarily adjust the rates if forecasted collections or actual collections are less than \$20 million in any calendar year. A retail electricity consumer may not be required to pay more than \$500 per month per site for low-income electric bill payment assistance.
- (c) Funds collected through the low-income electric bill payment assistance charge shall be paid into the Housing and Community Services Department Low-Income Electric Bill Payment Assistance Fund established by ORS 456.587 (2). Moneys deposited in the fund under this paragraph shall be used by the Housing and Community Services Department solely for purposes related to low-income electric bill payment assistance and for the Housing and Community Services Department's cost of administering this subsection. Funds collected by an electric company or Oregon Community Power under this subsection shall be expended in the service area of the electric company or Oregon Community Power from which the funds are collected.
- (d)(A) The Housing and Community Services Department shall determine the manner in which funds collected under this subsection will be allocated by the Housing and Community Services Department to energy assistance program providers for the purpose of providing low-income bill payment and crisis assistance.
- (B) The Housing and Community Services Department, in consultation with electric companies, shall investigate and may implement alternative delivery models to effectively reduce service disconnections and related costs to retail electricity consumers and electric utilities.
- (C) Priority assistance shall be directed to low-income electricity consumers who are in danger of having their electricity service disconnected.
- (D) The Housing and Community Services Department shall maintain records and provide those records upon request to an electric company, Oregon Community Power and the Citizens' Utility Board established under ORS chapter 774 on a quarterly basis. Records maintained must include the numbers of low-income electricity consumers served, the average amounts paid to low-income electricity consumers and the type of assistance provided to low-income electricity consumers. Electric companies and Oregon Community Power shall, if requested, provide the Housing and Community Services Department with aggregate data relating to low-income electricity consumers served on a quarterly basis to support program development.
- (e) Interest on moneys deposited in the Housing and Community Services Department Low-Income Electric Bill Payment Assistance Fund established by ORS 456.587 (2) may be used to provide bill payment and crisis assistance to electricity consumers whose primary source of heat is not electricity.
- (f) Notwithstanding ORS 757.310, the commission may allow an electric company or Oregon Community Power to provide reduced rates or other bill payment or crisis assistance or low-income program assistance to a low-income household eligible for assistance under the federal Low Income Home Energy Assistance Act of 1981, as amended and in effect on July 23, 1999.
 - (8) For purposes of this section, "retail electricity consumers" includes any direct service in-

- dustrial consumer that purchases electricity without purchasing distribution services from the electric utility.
- (9) For purposes of this section, funds collected by Oregon Community Power through public purpose charges are not considered moneys received from electric utility operations.

SECTION 11. The amendments to ORS 283.327 by section 6 of this 2019 Act become operative on January 1, 2025.

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