

HB 2134 -3 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Energy and Environment

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Meeting Dates: 3/6

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Repeals sunset on collection of additional moneys for low-income electric bill payment assistance.

REVENUE: May have revenue impact, but no statement yet issued

FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, but no statement yet issued

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-3 Replaces measure. Directs Public Utility Commission to establish amount that each electric company should charge consumers so that the total forecasted collection amount in 2018 is \$20 million for low-income bill payment assistance. Authorizes Commission to temporarily adjust rates if forecasted or actual collections are less than \$20 million. Specifies Act takes effect January 2, 2018. Makes non substantive conforming and stylistic changes.

REVENUE: May have revenue impact, but no statement yet issued

FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, but no statement yet issued

BACKGROUND:

The Legislature enacted Senate Bill 461 (2007) which directed the Public Utility Commission to establish a rate to be collected by each electric company so that the total anticipated amount to be collected was \$15 million dollars to be used for low-income electric bill payment assistance. Senate Bill 863 (2011) directed the Public Utility Commission to collect an additional \$5 million per year for the low-income bill payment assistance program in the event certain criteria were met. This measure was set to sunset on January 2, 2014. The Legislature has subsequently extended the sunset during the 2013 (House Bill 2004) and 2015 (House Bill 3257) legislative sessions.

House Bill 2134 repeals the January 2, 2018 sunset date of the additional \$5 million.