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.

Authorizes Public Utility Commission to allow electric companies to recover costs for prudent investments or expenses in infrastructure measures that support adoption of electric vehicles if certain criteria are met.

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to the Public Utility Commission; and declaring an emergency.

Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:

SECTION 1. Section 2 of this 2020 Act is added to and made a part of ORS chapter 757.

SECTION 2. (1) As used in this section, “electric company” has the meaning given that term in ORS 757.600.

(2) The Public Utility Commission may allow an electric company to recover costs from all ratepayers for prudent investments or expenses in infrastructure measures, including infrastructure measures behind the meter, that support the adoption and service of electric vehicles if the investments are consistent with and meet the requirements of subsection (3) of this section.

(3) An investment in infrastructure measures that support the adoption and service of electric vehicles is a utility service and a benefit to utility ratepayers if the investment can be reasonably anticipated to:

(a) Support reductions of transportation sector greenhouse gas emissions over time; and

(b) Benefit the electric company’s ratepayers in ways that may include, but need not be limited to:

(A) Distribution or transmission management benefits;

(B) Revenues to utilities from electric vehicle charging to offset utilities’ fixed costs that may otherwise be charged to ratepayers;

(C) System efficiencies or other economic values inuring to the benefit of ratepayers over the long term; or

(D) Increased ratepayer choice through provision of greater transportation electrification infrastructure deployment to increase availability of and access to public and private electric vehicle charging stations.

SECTION 3. This 2020 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2020 Act takes effect on its passage.