Minority Report

B-Engrossed

House Bill 4066

Ordered by the Senate February 27
Including House Amendments dated February 17 and Senate Minority Report Amendments dated February 27

Sponsored by nonconcurring members of the Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources: Senators BAERTSCHIGER JR, FINDLEY

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.

[Authorizes Public Utility Commission to allow electric companies to recover costs from retail electricity consumers for prudent infrastructure measures to support transportation electrification if certain criteria are met.]

[Requires electric company participating in clean fuels program to use revenues from sale of certain credits for programs to accelerate transportation electrification.]

[Requires consumer-owned utility to use revenues from sale of the same credits to accelerate transportation electrification.]

[Requires electric company to have and operate in compliance with risk-based wildfire protection plan approved by commission. Requires submission of first plan no later than December 31, 2020.]

[Requires consumer-owned utility to have and operate in compliance with risk-based wildfire mitigation plan approved by governing body of utility. Requires submission of first plan no later than December 31, 2021.]

[Requires commission to periodically convene workshops to develop and share information for best practices regarding wildfires.]

[Provides that terms and conditions of requirements for risk-based wildfire plans do not affect terms or conditions of easements held by electric utility over private land as of effective date of Act.]

[Declares emergency, effective on passage.]

Requires Public Utility Commission to conduct study on potential cost increases to retail electricity consumers due to electric company programs to accelerate transportation electrification. Requires commission to submit report on study to interim committees of Legislative Assembly related to energy and environment no later than September 15, 2021.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to the Public Utility Commission.

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

SECTION 1. (1) As used in this section:

(a) “Electric company” has the meaning given that term in ORS 757.600.

(b) “Retail electricity consumer” has the meaning given that term in ORS 757.600.

(c) “Transportation electrification” has the meaning given that term in ORS 757.357.

(2) The Public Utility Commission, in coordination with Portland State University, shall conduct a study on the potential cost increases to retail electricity consumers due to electric company programs to accelerate transportation electrification. The study shall:

(a) Assess, if the commission had authority to allow an electric company to recover costs from retail electricity consumers for prudent infrastructure measures to support transportation electrification, whether allowing such cost recovery would result in additional costs...
through rate increases for retail electricity consumers;
(b) Estimate the amount of any short-term and long-term cost increases identified in paragraph (a) of this subsection; and
(c) Identify and estimate the amount of any other cost increases to retail electricity consumers that could occur due to the participation by electric companies in this state in accelerating transportation electrification.
(3) The commission shall, no later than September 15, 2021, submit a report on the study required by this section to the interim committees of the Legislative Assembly related to energy and the environment. The report may include recommendations for legislation.