



PRESS RELEASE

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Oregon House Moves to Retain Energy Assistance for Needy Families

HB 3257 extends the sunset on low-income electric bill assistance program

SALEM – Today, the Oregon House of Representatives moved unanimously to extend the sunset on a program that provides electric bill assistance to low-income families.

The Oregon Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program is funded through the state and federal government, and is designed to help low-income households with home heating costs. House Bill 3257 extends the program's current sunset by two years, to January 2, 2018.

“Without energy assistance, Oregon families who are already struggling will be further left out in the cold.” said Rep. Ken Helm (D- Washington County), who carried the bill on the House floor.

Most of the struggling Oregonians that take advantage of this program are elderly, disabled, or veterans, and simply cannot afford to pay their utility bill. HB 3257 will ensure that vulnerable Oregonians will receive the energy assistance they need.

The bill now moves to the Senate for consideration.

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