

From the Offices of Rep. Nathan Sosa, Rep. Mark Gamba

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 26, 2025

Press Contact:

Office of Rep. Sosa, <u>Rep.NathanSosa@oregonlegislature.gov</u>
Office of Rep. Gamba, <u>Rep.MarkGamba@oregonlegislature.gov</u>

Oregon Passes Performance-Based Utility Regulations

SALEM, Ore. – Today, the Oregon House passed <u>SB 688</u> which will incentivize efficient and responsible electric utility operations. The bill directs the Public Utility Commission (PUC) to adopt a framework to implement performance-based regulations in regard to public utilities.

Such a system would reward utilities that prioritize things like affordability, energy efficiency, clean electricity standards, modernizing the grid, reliability during disasters, and wildfire prevention and safety.

"This bill creates incentives for utility companies to deliver energy in ways that are more affordable, reliable, and climate-friendly," said **Rep. Nathan Sosa (D-Greater Hillsboro)**.

"Our current system was designed in the 1930's, when the goal was rural electrification—connecting everyone to the grid. But today, our challenge isn't connectivity—its affordability, disaster resilience, and clean energy," said **Rep. Mark Gamba (D- Milwaukie)**. "Today investor-owned utilities are rewarded when they spend more, not when they perform better. As a result, ratepayers are facing rising costs which is not in the public's best interest."

The bill will move to the Governor to be signed into law.