



from the office

of

Senate Republican Leader

Ted Ferrioli

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Ferrioli introduces Ratepayers Protection Act
SB 909: energy affordability, ends "revolving door"

SALEM, Ore.-Today, Senate Republican Leader Ted Ferrioli, of John Day, introduced a transformational bill that will help protect Oregonians from excessive energy costs. Ferrioli says [Senate Bill 909](#), the "Ratepayers Protection Act," will fix the state's broken energy policy that has hurt vulnerable Oregonians.

Ferrioli said:

"The Ratepayer Protection Act will help Oregonians responsibly reduce carbon, bring about energy affordability, and it will help protect taxpayers from being exploited. We are going to stop utilities and others from gouging Oregonians.

"Big Energy and Big Government's dark alliance is coming to an end because people are starting to see the damage done by their closed-door meetings and resulting flawed public policies.

"We must come together to transform our state's energy structure and improve

the lives of Oregonians."

The Ratepayers Protection Act contains the following key fixes:

- Public utility shall not establish a rate of return that exceeds 4.5 percent
- Public purpose charge shall not exceed 1.5 percent of utility customer costs
- The gross collection of public purpose charges shall not exceed 2015 total
- No Energy Trust of Oregon employee shall be paid more than the governor and non-salary benefits shall not exceed 25 percent of base salary
- If the Klamath Dam removal not started by Jan. 1, 2018, the dam removal surcharge will be discontinued, funds collected by PacificCorp shall be returned pro-rata to ratepayers with 4 percent interest paid from date monies were received from ratepayers
- Investor-owned utilities (IOU) prohibited from increasing rates to pay any Superfund cleanup expenses
- State executive-level employees, public utilities commissioners and staff are prohibited from being employed by IOU for two years following their employment with the state or public utility

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