SB 393 B   STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Carrier: Sen. Bentz

Senate Committee On Finance and Revenue

Action Date:	06/05/19
Action:	Do pass with amendments. (Printed B-Eng.)
Vote:	5-0-0-0
Yeas:	5 - Bentz, Boquist, Hass, Riley, Taylor
Fiscal:	Has minimal fiscal impact
Revenue:	Revenue impact issued
Prepared By:	Jaime McGovern, Economist
Meeting Dates:	3/19, 5/21, 6/5

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Authorizes translator districts to annex a city entirely surrounded by the district where cable television corporations operate or have ceased operations and city electors approve annexation. Gives cities discretionary authority to approve self-annexation into a translator district. Has that district annexation be put to a vote following board passage. Authorizes fee paying district members to serve on the district board, regardless of elector status. Exempts property owned by State of Oregon from district service charge. States that a translator district may not submit annexation question to electors until after December 31, 2020

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Current structure.
- The interaction of SB 393 and SB 901.
- Whether the legislature or voters decide charges.
- The inability to detect properties that are using the service without paying the fee.

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

States that a translator district may not submit annexation question to electors until after December 31, 2020

BACKGROUND:

A translator district is a district that provides antenna television service to its members by rebroadcasting. Under current statute ORS 354.690, properties that are located within the translator district and use its signal are liable for the district fee. Although there are transmitter co-ops/municipalities in the state, there is one translator district. The translator district rebounds signals to make programming available in parts of the state where it may not otherwise be available through free full power TV stations. Given the shape and terrain of the service district and service area, there are properties that are located outside of the translator district, but can receive and possibly use the signal.