

SB 605 -5 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Natural Resources and Wildfire Recovery

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Meeting Dates: 2/10, 3/3

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Provides that, if a rural fire protection district contains improved lands, or new improvements, that are within seven miles of a fire station within the district and are not subject to assessments for fire protection by the district, the county board must initiate by resolution the annexation of the territory containing the lands. Requires that the hearing and election on proposed annexation be conducted as is required for district formation proceedings. Provides that the annexed territory is subject to the outstanding indebtedness of the district, the permanent rate limit established by the district, and the local option taxes imposed by district.

REVENUE: No revenue impact.

FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, but no statement yet issued.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-5 Specifies county annexation of the lands is not subject to the requirement for a conference with the Oregon Department of Forestry prior to annexation. Specifies that improved lands may be subject to tax assessment and a fee by the district, whereas unimproved lands may not be subject to tax assessment or fee by the district. Clarifies that lands unimproved at annexation, but improved after annexation, may be subject to tax assessment and fee beginning July 1 following the calendar year in which the lands are improved. Add emergency clause, effective on passage.

REVENUE: No revenue impact.

FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, but no statement yet issued.

BACKGROUND:

Under ORS 498.115, counties have the authority to determine the territory included in a rural fire protection district, subject to restrictions concerning territory within a city, water supply district, certain forestlands, railroad rights of way, and ocean shores.

Senate Bill 605 would provide that, if a rural fire protection district contains improved lands, or new improvements, that are within seven miles of a fire station within the district and are not subject to assessments for fire protection by the district, the county board must initiate by resolution the annexation of the territory containing the lands.