

SB 605 -7 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Natural Resources and Wildfire Recovery

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Meeting Dates: 2/10, 3/3, 3/31

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

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

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-7 Replaces measure. Upon request by a rural fire protection district, requires a county board to annex into the district lands that are either within seven road miles of a fire station in the district or that are brought within seven miles of a station by a new road, and that are not subject to district tax assessment. Requires the county board to establish and implement a process for the annexation. Authorizes a rural fire protection district to levy certain taxes and fees only to annexed lands that are improved, and not to those that are unimproved. Clarifies that lands unimproved at annexation, that are improved after annexation, may be subject to district tax assessment and fees beginning July 1 following the calendar year in which the lands are improved. Declares emergency, 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.