

SB 464 -1 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Finance and Revenue

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Meeting Dates: 2/11, 4/19

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires tax collector to cancel property taxes, imposed on taxable property damaged or destroyed accordingly, by wildfire during September 2020 in county covered by State of Emergency declared in response to wildfire as if property were destroyed property under current law. Coordinates timing of proration of taxes for property destroyed and damaged by fire or act of God. Applies to property tax year beginning on July 1, 2020. Takes effect on 91st day following adjournment sine die.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Impact of 2020 wildfires on local communities.
- Displacement of residents affected by wildfire.
- Logistics of tax proration and refunds.
- Difference between damage and destruction.
- Which properties the bill would affect.
- Local tax revenue effects of proposed measure.

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-1 Removes mandatory property tax cancellation and proration of introduced version. Provides for permissible local adoption of property tax relief ordinance in response to the 2020 wildfires. Allows local county governing body to adopt ordinance which would create relief boundary and require tax collector, for all properties within boundary, to collect 2/12ths of property taxes imposed for property tax year beginning July 1, 2020, and cancel the remaining 10/12ths.

BACKGROUND:

There currently exists a mechanism for the Tax Collector to prorate and/or cancel the property taxes owed on property burnt by wildfire. This mechanism requires the submission of an application by the owner, and provides relief beginning the month following the date of damage.