

**SB 605 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**

**House Committee On Agriculture and Natural Resources**

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**Prepared By:** Stuty Maskey, LPRO Analyst

**Meeting Dates:** 5/4

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Requires a county board, upon request by a rural fire protection district (RFPD), to annex into the district lands that are either within seven road miles of a district fire station or that are brought within seven miles of a station by a new road, and that are not subject to RFPD tax assessment. Requires the county board to establish and implement a process for the annexation. Authorizes a RFPD 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 RFPD tax assessment and fees beginning July 1 following the calendar year in which the lands are improved. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

*Senate Vote: Passed. Ayes, 21; Nays, 8-Anderson, Boquist, Girod, Hansell, Heard, Robinson, Thatcher, Thomsen; Excused, 1-Linthicum*

*FISCAL: Fiscal impact issued*

*REVENUE: No revenue impact*

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

**EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:**

No amendment.

**BACKGROUND:**

Rural Fire Protection Districts (RFPDs) are special districts created to provide fire protection in rural areas of Oregon. There currently are over 200 RFPDs in the state. Counties have the authority to determine the territory included in an RFPD, subject to restrictions concerning territory within a city, water supply district, certain forestlands, railroad rights of way, and ocean shores, and subject to special district petition, hearing, election, and notice requirements.

Senate Bill 605 A would require a county board, upon request by a rural fire protection district, to annex into the district lands within seven road miles of a district fire station, and would authorize the district to levy certain taxes and fees only to annexed lands that are improved.