

**SB 863 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**

**Carrier:** Sen. Gelser

**Senate Committee On Rules**

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**Action Date:** 05/18/21

**Action:** Do pass with amendments. (Printed A-Eng.)

**Vote:** 4-1-0-0

**Yeas:** 4 - Burdick, Girod, Manning Jr, Wagner

**Nays:** 1 - Thatcher

**Fiscal:** No fiscal impact

**Revenue:** No revenue impact

**Prepared By:** Leslie Porter, LPRO Analyst

**Meeting Dates:** 4/29, 5/13, 5/18

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Authorizes Rural Fire Protection District (District) to acquire real property or easement for purpose of establishing fire evacuation route by purchase or other voluntary agreement. Allows District to construct or maintain fire evacuation route, or to participate in agreement related to fire evacuation route, on property owned by person or governmental entity with authorization from person or governmental entity. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Inadequate access to fire evacuation routes
- Whether the use of eminent domain should be included
- Addressing a gap in the current system

**EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:**

Allows Rural Fire Protection District (District) to acquire real property or easement by purchase or other voluntary agreement. Clarifies that District may construct or maintain fire evacuation route on property owned by person or governmental entity with authorization from person or governmental entity.

**BACKGROUND:**

Current law allows a Rural Fire Protection District to acquire sites on which to place fire houses or district headquarters by purchase or exercise of the powers of eminent domain. Senate Bill 863 A authorizes a Rural Fire Protection District to acquire real property or an easement to establish fire evacuation routes.