HB 3461

Property Tax Deferral: Wildfire Victims

House Committee on Revenue LRO | 4/27/2023



- What the bill does
- Measure history: HB 3461
- Policy considerations





What the bill does

- Authorizes, following application, property tax deferral for eligible homestead in amount that exceeds 103 percent of 2020-21 property tax
 - Up to extent of square footage of destroyed homestead rebuilt by same owner on same lot to replace homestead destroyed by September 2020 wildfires
- Deferral claims may be made temporarily, for property tax years beginning on or after July 1, 2022, and before July 1, 2027
- Takes effect 91st day after sine die





Measure history: HB 3461

House Committee on Revenue

- 3/22 Public Hearing
- Issues discussed:
 - Repayments of deferred property taxes are comingled with other program funds in Senior Property Tax Deferral Revolving Account
 - Whether intent of bill is for deferred taxes to become due, with interest, no later than July 1, 2027
 - Section 1(4)(a) may violate full text provision in Oregon Constitution, Article IV, section 22





Policy Considerations

- Some homes destroyed by 2020 wildfires may be ineligible. Some wildfires started in Aug., and some weren't fully contained until Oct., Nov., or Dec.
- Repayments of deferred property taxes are comingled with other funds in Senior Property Tax Deferral Revolving Account:
 - Senior or disabled deferral
 - Special assessment for local improvement deferral
 - DOR's "expenses in administering the property tax and special assessment senior deferral programs"





Policy Considerations (cont.)







Policy Considerations (cont.)

Relating to lack of adherence to full text provision:

- As currently written:
 - Unclear whether intent of bill is for local governments to forego deferred amounts [311.676(1); 311.701(1)-(2)]. Deferral programs listed previously do not forego deferred amounts
 - Unclear whether intent of bill is for deferred taxes to become due, with interest [311.674(3); 311.676(2); 311.701(3)]. Interest is due for deferral programs listed previously



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