HB 3461

Property Tax Deferral: Wildfire Victims

House Committee on Revenue LRO | 5/3/2023



- What the bill does
- Measure history
- 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

House Committee on Revenue

- 3/22 Public Hearing
- Issues discussed:
 - Whether intent of bill is for deferred taxes to become due, with interest
 - Repayment of deferred property taxes and Senior Property Tax Deferral Revolving Account (ORS 311.701)
 - Section 1(4)(a) of HB 3461 and full text provision in Oregon Constitution, Article IV, section 22
 - Property tax amount when homestead is rebuilt on same square footage as previous homestead





Measure history (cont.)

House Committee on Revenue

- 3/22 Public Hearing
- Issues discussed:
 - Whether intent of bill is for deferred taxes to become due, with interest
 - Repayment of deferred property taxes and Senior Property Tax Deferral Revolving Account (ORS 311.701)
 - Section 1(4)(a) of HB 3461 and full text provision in Oregon Constitution, Article IV, section 22
 - Property tax amount when homestead is rebuilt on same square footage as previous homestead





Policy Considerations

- 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 repayment of deferred amounts [311.676(1); 311.701(1)-(2)]. Deferral programs listed previously do not forego repayment of 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



Legislative Revenue Office https://www.oregonlegislature.gov/lro 503-986-1266

State of Oregon

A COPORT

LEGISLATIVE REVENUE OFFICE