

SB 1062 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Emergency Management, General Government, and Veterans

Prepared By: Beverly Anderson, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 5/6, 5/13

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure authorizes the cities of Bandon, North Bend, and Reedsport, notwithstanding any provision of a city's charter or code to the contrary, to set fees, rates, or any other charges imposed for municipal and wastewater services by a majority vote of the governing body of the city.

Fiscal impact: Minimal fiscal impact

Revenue impact: No revenue impact

Senate Vote: Ayes, 27; Nays, 3

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Questions about current revenue sources for water and wastewater in the communities named in the measure
- Examples of health and safety concerns related to water and wastewater
- Questions about how communities will implement rate increases

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

According to the [League of Oregon Cities Oregon Municipal Handbook, Chapter 17: Public Works and Utilities](#) (Handbook), a city's authority to operate a municipal utility is granted in state law and/or a city charter. Authority granted through a Charter can be expressed as either a "general grant of power" or a "specific grant of power." Cities that do not have charter authority rely upon statutory law under the 1893 Incorporation Act. The Handbook states that "once a city has authority to operate a utility, a city may build, own, operate, and maintain waterworks, water systems, railways and railroads, electric light and power plants, both inside and outside of its boundaries for profit."