

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

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|-----------------------|---|
| Action: | Do Pass |
| Vote: | 5 - 0 - 0 |
| Yeas: | Beyer, Edwards C., Girod, Thatcher, Riley |
| Nays: | 0 |
| Exc.: | 0 |
| Prepared By: | Patrick Brennan, Administrator |
| Meeting Dates: | 5/3 |

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Grants metropolitan service district jurisdiction over boundary changes within district boundaries. Eliminates the process for contested boundary changes. Requires metropolitan service district to establish criteria for boundary changes, boundary change hearing and notification process, and uncontested boundary change process.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Infrequently used process
- Concern that commission could become mandatory additional step

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: Metro is the directly-elected regional government that serves more than 1.3 million residents in Clackamas, Multnomah and Washington counties, and the 25 cities in the Portland metropolitan area. The duties of the Metropolitan Boundary Commission became the responsibility of the cities and counties in 1999. Since that time, Metro has provided boundary change mapping and maintenance services for the region's cities and special districts. For districts affected by boundary changes, the Metro Boundary Appeals Commission (BAC) conducts somewhat informal appeals as an alternative to appeal to the Land Use Board of Appeals (LUBA).

Senate Bill 615 abolishes the BAC which, until recently, had been used infrequently. However, due to a LUBA ruling that appeals must go through the BAC before being heard by LUBA, this process is now a prerequisite for appeals to LUBA. Appealing parties now view the BAC process as an unwanted and sometimes costly extra step in appealing boundary change decisions. Additionally, the BAC is comprised of laypeople that may not have the expertise that LUBA would in resolving contested boundary changes.