75th OREGON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY - 2009 Regular Session MEASURE: SB 663 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY CARRIER: CONSENT

House Committee on Environment and Water

REVENUE: No revenue impact **FISCAL:** No fiscal impact

Action: Do Pass and Be Placed on the Consent Calendar

Vote: 7 - 0 - 1

Yeas: Bailey, Barnhart, Bentz, Gilliam, Jenson, Smith J., Cannon

Nays: 0 Exc.: Boone

Prepared By: Beth Patrino, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 5/14

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Changes method for filling vacancy on board of directors of irrigation district. Requires that if office of director becomes vacant, remaining directors must appoint resident of Oregon who owns land located in district, or division of district, to replace director until next annual meeting following an election. Requires electors of district, or division of district, to elect a successor to appointed director to take office at next annual meeting following election.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Existing law is silent on filling vacancies on irrigation district boards
- Measure copies existing provisions for filling vacancies on special district boards

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: Irrigation districts are considered local governments, and follow their own statutes for the conduct of their elections, including the nomination and election of their boards of directors. However, when a vacancy occurs irrigation districts have generally been relying on statutes that direct special districts, ORS 198.320. Senate Bill 663 uses the generally accepted language and applies it to irrigation district election law.