

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

Action: Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed

Vote: 3 - 0 - 2

Yeas: George, Monroe, Shields

Nays: 0

Exc.: Bonamici, Boquist

Prepared By: Patrick Brennan, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 5/9, 6/1

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Includes clustered mailboxes in the definition of “related facilities” for the purposes of ensuring access to persons with disabilities. Requires the Director of the Department of Consumer and Business Services to incorporate clustered mailbox assembly standards in the structural code prior to April 1, 2012. Requires cities and counties to adopt structural code standards for clustered mailbox accessibility in local street and road standards. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Importance of access to mail for independence and community involvement
- Features that can enhance access
- Rising importance with aging population

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Delays operative date of sections 2 and 3 from March 1, 2012 to June 1, 2012. Delays from January 1, 2012 to April 1, 2012 the deadline for the Department of Consumer and Business Services to adopt amendments to the Structural and Specialty Code.

BACKGROUND: House Bill 3361-A incorporates clustered mailboxes into the definition of “related facilities” for the purpose of ensuring access by persons with disabilities. Other “related facilities” means building site improvements that include, but are not limited to, parking lots, passageways and roads. The U.S. Postal Service does not specify requirements for accessibility to clustered mailboxes.