

REVENUE: May have revenue impact, no statement issued

FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, no statement issued

SUBSEQUENT REFERRAL TO:

Action:

Vote:

Yeas:

Nays:

Exc.:

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Meeting Dates: 2/27

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Allows Secretary of State to assume election-related duties, functions or powers of county clerk of county for which Governor has declared public safety services emergency due to fiscal distress. Requires funds retained by Director of Veterans' Affairs out of distribution to county without county veterans' service officer to be spent to provide veterans' services in that county in manner deemed appropriate by director. Authorizes county to request declaration by Governor of emergency in county that is providing less than minimally adequate property tax assessment and collection services. Requires Director of Department of Consumer and Business Services to enter into agreement to combine resources for the purpose of administration and enforcement of municipal building inspection program if municipality is not carrying out program or at request of public body.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

BACKGROUND: If the Governor believes that the county is in a state of fiscal distress that compromises the county's ability to provide a minimally adequate level of public safety services, the governing body or the Governor may seek a declaration of a public safety services emergency by requesting in writing that the Oregon Criminal Justice Commission (OCJC) review and analyze public safety services provided by the county. If OCJC finds that the county is providing a less than minimally adequate level of public safety services, the commission shall recommend to the Governor that the Governor declare a public safety services emergency for the county.

In Oregon, counties are responsible for the administration of elections, but House Bill 2206 would require the Secretary of State to assume control over the administration of elections if the Governor has declared a public safety services emergency due to fiscal distress. In addition, House Bill 2206 would allow the governing body of a county believes that the county is in a state of fiscal distress that compromises the county's ability to provide a minimally adequate level of property tax assessment services or property tax collection services, the governing body may request that the Governor declare a property tax assessment services emergency, a property tax collection services emergency or both. If such a declaration is made the Department of Revenue shall provide services in the county to the extent necessary to ensure a minimally adequate level of property tax assessment services, property tax collection services or both to all municipal corporations in the county.

ORS 406.464 requires the Oregon Director of Veterans' Affairs (ODVA) to adopt by rule a formula to distribute to county governing bodies funds appropriated to the director to enhance and expand the services provided by county veterans' service officers. Currently, the ODVA is allowed to retain not more than six percent of total amount distributed if a county has not appointed county veterans' service officers. House Bill 2206 would allow ODVA to retain the full amount that would otherwise be distributed to a county with a county veterans' service officer.

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This summary has not been adopted or officially endorsed by action of the committee.

ODVA would be required to use any funds to provide veterans' services in a county not providing a county veterans' service officer in a manner deemed appropriate by the director until such time as the county appoints or reinstates a county veterans' service office including providing veterans' services to veterans, spouses, dependents and survivors of veterans.

Finally, HB 2206 allows the Director of the Department of Business and Consumer Services to determine that a municipality is not carrying out a building inspection program in accordance with a Comprehensive municipal building inspection program or Selective municipal building inspection programs, or upon the request of a public body, the director can enter into an agreement to combine department, local government and private resources sufficient for the region to allow for the administration and enforcement of the building inspection program . The measure would permit the director to adopt rules establishing permit fees, other service fees and hourly charges in amounts reasonably calculated to cover the costs to the department of administering and enforcing the municipal building inspection program or carrying out the terms of the agreement.