

REVENUE: Minimal revenue impact, no statement issued

FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued

Action: Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed

Vote: 5 - 4 - 0

Yeas: Barnhart, Dembrow, Holvey, Hoyle, Garrett

Nays: Berger, Hicks, Jenson, Kennemer

Exc.: 0

Prepared By: Erin Seiler, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 6/26

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Requires Beaverton School District and Hillsboro School District attempt resolution of boundary dispute via mediation within 30 days of effective date of this Act. If resolution is not reached, school districts must formally request boundary change or merger to district boundary board of county or counties with appropriate governing jurisdiction over affected school districts. Does not preclude filing of remonstrance petition on proposed school district boundary change or merger. Instructs school districts report on mediation to interim committee on education by December 1, 2013. Declares emergency, effective upon passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Effect of amendment
- Process for changing school district boundaries
- Role of county district boundary board to change school district boundaries
- Ability to file remonstrance petition on proposed school boundary change or merger

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Replaces measure.

BACKGROUND: Chapter 330 of the Oregon Revised Statutes governs the process of school district boundary changes and mergers. The governing body of each county constitutes the district boundary board for the purpose of apportioning the county into school districts. The school district boundary board has jurisdiction over all school districts in the county and over all joint districts and is responsible for alterations and changes in the school districts. Currently, the boundaries of a school district may be changed or merged by the county district boundary board in the following three situations: first, if continuation of the district is not required because of geographic factors affecting transportation or because of lack of population, and if (a) the school district fails to maintain and operate a school for one year without approval of the State Board of Education, and/or (b) the school district is in a county with 35,000 or less population and has an average daily membership of fewer than six children for each of two successive years, or (c) the school district is in a county with more than 35,000 population and has an average daily membership of fewer than 18 children for each of two successive years; second, if the district boundary board receives a request to merge from the district school boards of the affected districts or on petition of five percent or 500 electors of each affected district, whichever is less; or third, by a vote of the people pursuant to lengthening the course of study under Chapter 335.

Senate Bill 600-A requires specified school districts to attempt boundary resolution almost immediately via mediation; to proceed with the appropriate, formal process if mediations fails; and to report to the legislature.

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