Senate Joint Resolution 31

Sponsored by Senator KNOPP (Presession filed.)

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced.**

Proposes amendment to Oregon Constitution authorizing large cities to unilaterally form consolidated city-county government separate from remainder of county, authorizing certain cities in large counties to form new counties separate from remainder of county and providing for disposition of remaining noncontiguous portions of county divided by foregoing provisions.

Refers proposed amendment to people for their approval or rejection at next regular general election.

1 **JOINT RESOLUTION**

2 **Be It Resolved by the Legislative Assembly of the State of Oregon:**

3   <u>PARAGRAPH 1.</u> Section 2a, Article XI of the Constitution of the State of Oregon, is amended

4 to read:

5   **Sec. 2a.** (1) The Legislative Assembly, or the people by the Initiative, may enact a general law

6 providing a method whereby an incorporated city or town or municipal corporation may surrender

7 its charter and be merged into an adjoining city or town, provided a majority of the electors of each

8 of the incorporated cities or towns or municipal corporations affected authorize the surrender or

9 merger, as the case may be.

10   (2) In all counties having a city [*therein*] containing [*over*] **more than** 300,000 inhabitants, **gov-**

11 **ernments of** the county and city [*government thereof*] may be consolidated in such manner as may

12 be provided by law with one set of officers. The consolidated county and city may be incorporated

13 under general laws providing for incorporation for municipal purposes. The provisions of this Con-

14 stitution applicable to cities, and also those applicable to counties, so far as not inconsistent or

15 prohibited to cities, shall be applicable to such consolidated government.

16   **(3) The inhabitants of a city containing more than 500,000 inhabitants may hold an**

17 **election in the manner provided by law to unilaterally form out of the county in which the**

18 **city is located a new county, the boundaries of which are the boundaries of the city, and may**

19 **consolidate the governments of the city and newly created county in the manner described**

20 **in subsection (2) of this section. The remainder of the county shall maintain the county name**

21 **and government, unless otherwise provided by the inhabitants of the remainder of the**

22 **county.**

23   **(4) In a county containing more than 700,000 inhabitants, the inhabitants of any contig-**

24 **uous area of the county containing at least 100,000 inhabitants may hold an election in the**

25 **manner provided by law to unilaterally form a new county, the boundaries of which are the**

26 **boundaries of the contiguous area.**

27   **(5) If any action taken pursuant to subsection (3) or (4) of this section creates more than**

28 **one noncontiguous area within the boundaries of the remainder of a county:**

29   **(a) Any contiguous area containing more than 100,000 inhabitants shall become a new**

1   county; and

2   (b) The inhabitants of any noncontiguous area having 100,000 inhabitants or fewer shall

3   vote on which adjacent county to join.

4   (6) The property, other assets and outstanding debt obligations of a county divided pur-

5   suant to subsection (3), (4) or (5) of this section shall be apportioned as provided by law

6   among the counties, including consolidated city-counties, created by the division.

7   (7) The minimum area requirement of section 6, Article XV of this Constitution, does not

8   apply to subsections (3) to (5) of this section.

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10   <u>PARAGRAPH 2.</u> The amendment proposed by this resolution shall be submitted to the

11   people for their approval or rejection at the next regular general election held throughout

12   this state.

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