



February 4, 2019

Senator Chuck Riley
900 Court St. NE, S-303
Salem, OR, 97301
Sen.ChuckRiley@oregonlegislature.gov

Bill Harvey

Commission Chair
bharvey@bakercounty.org

RE: SB 393

Dear Senator Chuck Riley:

Mark Bennett

Commissioner
mbennett@bakercounty.org

The Commissioners of Baker County support the introduced provisions of Senate Bill 393. Blue Mountain Translator District has served Baker County residents since 1978, and we believe that their operations will be improved by the provisions of this legislation.

Bruce A. Nichols

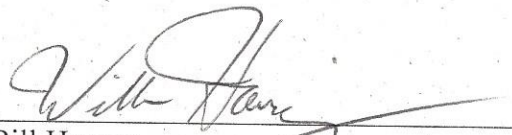
Commissioner
bnichols@bakercounty.org

BMTD's boundaries entirely surround but do not include the cities of Baker City and Haines. This district is funded by the payment of voluntary service charges, but they are unable to bill residents of incorporated cities unless they have discovered an antenna during a physical inspection. The rural properties in the District are sparsely populated, and service charge payers in cities are ineligible to serve on BMTD's governing board, regularly resulting in vacancies.

Senate Bill 393 offers solutions to address these systemic problems. Service charge payers in cities would be permitted to serve on BMTD's governing board. Voters in cities would also be permitted to consider annexation into the district.

Baker County Commissioners thank the Committee on Business and General Government for holding the first hearing on translator district statutes since 1997. We hope that the Committee will move Senate Bill 393 to the Senate floor for a vote.

Best regards,



Bill Harvey
Chair, Baker County Commissioners