

SB 393 Committee Letter

Hon. Senator Chuck Riley,

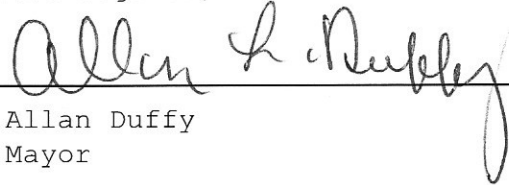
The City of Elgin supports the introduced provisions of Senate Bill 393. Blue Mountain Translator District has served Elgin residents since 1978, and we believe that their operations will be improved by the provisions of this legislation.

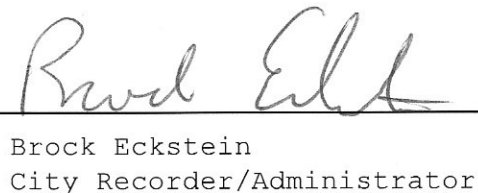
BMTD's boundaries entirely surround but do not include the City of Elgin. This district is funded by the payment of voluntary service charges, but they are unable to bill residents of incorporated cities unless they have discovered an antenna during a physical inspection. The rural properties in the District are sparsely populated, and service charge payers in Elgin and other 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 Elgin and other cities would be permitted to serve on BMTD's governing board. Voters in Elgin would also be permitted to consider annexation into the district.

The City of Elgin thanks 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,


Allan Duffy
Mayor


Brock Eckstein
City Recorder/Administrator