

SB 408 A -A2 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Agriculture and Land Use

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Meeting Dates: 4/16, 5/2

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Allows a county to approve a proposed division of land in an exclusive farm use zone for utility facilities necessary for public service if it finds the parcel for the non-farm use is not larger than the minimum size necessary for the use. Prohibits land divided under this Act from being later rezoned by the county for retail, commercial, industrial, or other non-resource use, except as provided under the statewide planning goals or goal exceptions.

FISCAL: Has minimal fiscal impact

REVENUE: No revenue impact

SENATE FLOOR VOTE: 30-0-0

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-A2 Changes requirement that nonfarm dwelling parcels are not capable of producing "more than 20 cubic feet per acre per year of wood fiber" to "at least 20 cubic feet per acre per year of wood fiber" in Eastern Oregon.

BACKGROUND:

Oregon law establishes that agricultural use is an efficient means of conserving natural resources; that the preservation of land for agricultural use is a priority; and that the expansion of urban development into rural lands is a concern because of conflicts between farm and urban activities, such as noise, dust or odor, and loss of open spaces from such expansion (ORS 215.243). Certain nonfarm uses may be allowed on exclusive farm use (EFU) lands.

Senate Bill 408 A would allow a county to approve a proposed division of land in an EFU zone for utility facilities necessary for public service if it finds the parcel for the non-farm use is not larger than the minimum size necessary for the use.