HB 3365 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Agriculture and Land Use

Action Date: 04/04/19
Action: Do Pass.

Vote: 7-0-0-0

Yeas: 7 - Boshart Davis, Clem, Helm, McLain, Post, Smith DB, Williams

Fiscal: Has minimal fiscal impact

Revenue: No revenue impact

Prepared By: Laura Kentnesse, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 3/28, 4/4

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Repeals livestock district statutes. Establishes a county application process for a landowner who desires to create, annex property to, withdraw area from, or dissolve a livestock district. Requires the application include the name of the livestock district and a description of its proposed boundaries. Requires the county governing body, designated hearings officer, or county clerk to: schedule a public hearing; notice the applicant, owners of record located within the affected area, and other interested parties; publish the hearing notice in the newspaper; make applicant hearing documents and exhibits, and staff reports, available to the public; and take action within 30 days of the hearing record closing by conditionally approving or denying the application. Requires the county to approve the livestock district application within 90 days of a conditional approval if the county receives a petition signed by a majority of landowners within the proposed area for a new or dissolved district, or if the county receives a petition signed by the majority of landowners within a district and the majority of the landowners within the area proposed for annexation to or withdrawal from a district. Requires the county to deny the livestock district application within 90 days of a conditional approval if the county does not receive the required petition. Requires the county clerk to publish notice in the newspaper that approved formations, annexations, withdrawals, or dissolutions of livestock districts will take effect 60 days following publication. Establishes that livestock districts must contain at least 2,000 acres, and that withdrawals must consist of at least 2,000 acres withdrawn while at least 2,000 acres still remain in the district. Establishes that these laws apply to applications made on or after January 1, 2020.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Conflicts between ranchers and timber companies over current livestock district annexation process
- Challenges with establishing fencing on certain landscapes and on noncontiguous livestock districts
- Examples of noncontiguous livestock districts
- Current and proposed processes for notice to landowners

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Livestock districts are areas where it is not lawful for livestock to run at large. The livestock district statutes (ORS 607.008-607.055), originally created in 1957, state that all incorporated cities in Oregon are livestock districts, and establish the process for forming, changing, or dissolving a district. There are currently 10 county-wide livestock districts; most remaining counties consist of both smaller livestock districts and open range areas.

House Bill 3365 would repeal the livestock district statutes, and establish a county application process for forming, changing, or dissolving a livestock district.

Carrier: Rep. Smith DB