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.

Authorizes city that was annexed into special district to petition county board for withdrawal from district. Provides that if city that was annexed into special district upon election called only in such city wishes to withdraw from district, election called to withdraw city from district shall also be held only in city. Changes requirement that withdrawal petition must be approved or denied depending on feasibility of providing district service to territory described in petition to option for county board to approve or deny petition based on feasibility.

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to the withdrawal of the territory of a city from a special district; amending ORS 198.870 and 198.875; and declaring an emergency.

SECTION 1. ORS 198.870 is amended to read:

198.870. (1)(a) [When] Whenever a plan for district improvements is adopted, or at any time more than two years after the date of formation of a district or [if petitioner’s property is located] within territory annexed into a district, after the date of annexation of [a] the district [if petitioner’s property is located within the territory annexed], an owner of land included in a district may petition the county board for withdrawal of the property of the owner from the district.

(b) If the electors of an area within a district wish to withdraw from the district, they may file a petition with the county board.

(c) If the governing body of a city that was annexed into a district under ORS 198.866 wishes to withdraw the city from the district, the governing body may petition the county board for withdrawal of the territory of the city from the district.

(2) Petitioners shall cause notice of the petition filing to be given in writing to the district secretary. Within five days after the petition is filed, petitioners shall furnish the secretary with a copy of the petition as filed.

(3) Except as provided by ORS 198.875, ORS 198.800 to 198.820 apply to proceedings for withdrawal and to the rights, powers and duties of the petitioners and other persons having an interest in the proceeding.

(4) Unless an election is required under ORS 198.875, the county board may approve the petition as presented or it may adjust the boundaries and approve the petition. The petition [shall] may be approved if it has not been, [or] is not or would not be[,] feasible for the territory described in the petition to receive service from the district. The petition [shall] may be denied if it appears that it is[,] or would be[,] feasible for the territory described in the petition to receive service from the district.
SECTION 2. ORS 198.875 is amended to read:

198.875. (1) At the time and place set for the final hearing upon [the] a withdrawal petition, if the required number of written requests for an election on the proposed withdrawal have not been filed, the county board shall enter an order withdrawing the described area from the district.

(2)(a) Except as provided in paragraph (b) of this subsection, if the required number of requests for an election are filed on or before the final hearing, the county board shall call an election in the district upon the question of the withdrawal of the area.

(b) If the withdrawal petition relates to the territory of a city that was annexed into the district upon an election held only in the city under ORS 198.866 (3) and (7), an election to withdraw the territory of the city from the district shall also be held only in the city.

(3) If an election is called and a majority of the votes cast at the election is in favor of the withdrawal of the designated area from the district, the county board shall enter an order withdrawing the area from the district. If the majority of the votes cast is against withdrawal, the county board shall enter an order declaring the results of the election. In either case, the county board shall cause a copy of the order to be filed with the secretary of the district.

SECTION 3. This 2019 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2019 Act takes effect on its passage.