

SB 1561 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Housing and Development

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Meeting Dates: 2/10, 2/12

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure requires local governments to approve restoration or replacement of a dwelling which was destroyed in a natural disaster. The measure outlines circumstances under which a dwelling would be eligible for this process and set limits on the size and placement of the replacement dwelling.

Detailed summary:

Requires a local government to approve the application for restoration or replacement of the damaged dwelling under a process that is not a land-use decision, and prohibits the governing body from adding further conditions to the approval except to maintain participation in the National Flood Insurance Program. Prohibits the local government from requiring that notice be given to any nonparty.

Requires that, in order to be eligible for this alternative approval process, the former dwelling must have had:

- an intact exterior wall and a roof
- indoor plumbing, including a kitchen sink, toilet and bathing facilities, all connected to a sanitary waste disposal system,
- wiring for interior lights, and
- a heating system.

Requires that the former dwelling had been appropriately authorized under the current land use system or was assessed for tax purposes as a residential dwelling for at least ten years before the rebuilding application was issued.

Requires that the replacement dwelling not exceed 125 percent of the floor area of the original dwelling, be adequately served by utilities and roads, and be located at least partially within the footprint of the former building.

Fiscal impact: May have fiscal impact, but no statement yet issued

Revenue impact: May have fiscal impact, but no statement yet issued

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Current law provides for alteration, restoration, or replacement of a lawfully established dwelling as a permitted use on lands zoned for exclusive farm use, under certain conditions and provided that the dwelling met certain standards of habitability and was recognized as a dwelling for taxation purposes. The lawful use of any building, structure or land may continue regardless of changes to zoning ordinances or regulations, as long as the use was lawful at the time the use began, all required permits and approvals were received at the time the use commenced, and the use has continued uninterrupted. Approval for the alteration, restoration, or replacement of the dwelling lies with the local jurisdiction, and a decision may be a land use decision subject to appeal to the Land Use Board of Appeals (LUBA).

This summary has not been adopted or officially endorsed by action of the committee.