

SB 608 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Environment and Natural Resources

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Meeting Dates: 4/6

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Authorizes a local government to amend its urban growth boundary (UGB) for the purpose of obtaining land for needed housing if in the jurisdiction during the preceding year: (1) the number of new households exceeded the number of new housing units and (2) the average monthly vacancy rate for rental units did not exceed six percent. Requires UGB amendment be approved by the city to which the land will be annexed and all landowners included in the amended UGB. Prescribes method for determining needed housing. Requires local government to ensure land is used to provide needed housing for subsequent ten years. Declares emergency; takes effect upon passage.

REVENUE: May have revenue impact, but no statement yet issued.

FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, but no statement yet issued.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Oregon's statewide land use planning program was created in 1973 when the Legislative Assembly passed the Oregon Land Use Act (Senate Bill 100). The program is overseen by the seven-member Land Conservation and Development Commission (LCDC), which receives administrative support from the Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD). Following the passage of Senate Bill 100, LCDC developed 19 land use planning goals, including but not limited to economic development, energy, transportation, and housing. All cities and counties are required to adopt comprehensive plans that meet these goals. Under certain circumstances, jurisdictions may claim an exception to a goal. Goal 14 relates to urbanization and urban growth boundaries (UGBs), which designate the areas within and surrounding a city that may be developed according to commercial, industrial, and residential zoning restrictions. UGBs are designed to preserve surrounding rural and forest land and facilitate the efficient accommodation of identified urban growth needs.

Senate Bill 608 would authorize a local government to amend its urban growth boundary for the purposes of obtaining land for needed housing. The Act would require local government to ensure the land is used to provide needed housing for the next 10 years.