FINAL BILL REPORT HB 1159

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Synopsis as Enacted

Brief Description: Concerning the number of fire protection district commissioners.

Sponsors: Representatives Berg, Bronoske, Griffey and Pollet.

House Committee on Local Government Senate Committee on Housing & Local Government

Background:

Fire protection districts (Districts) are established to provide fire prevention, fire suppression, and emergency medical services to protect life and property. Districts are formed through a petition from the residents of a proposed district, a public hearing, and three-fifths voter approval.

The affairs of a District are managed by a board of elected fire commissioners initially composed of three commissioners. Three-member boards of commissioners may be increased from three to five or seven commissioners through a resolution or petition signed by 10 percent of voters which is submitted to the county legislative authority. After the resolution is submitted, the county legislative authority must call a special election proposing an increase from three members to five or seven members. A majority of voters must approve the increase.

Summary:

A District board of commissioners with five members may increase from five to seven members if approved by a majority of voters.

Votes on Final Passage:

House 96 0 Senate 46 0

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This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.

Effective: July 25, 2021