



2021 Legislative Concept Proposal LC 593 - Lane County Boundary Change

Problem

Residents in the NW corner of Lane County have petitioned the Higher Education Coordinating Commission for inclusion in the Lane Community College Service District. Currently, Lane County is not located in a service district.

Background

The Commission, pursuant to ORS 341.575 to 341.579, serves as the Community College District Boundary Board, authorized to make recommendations to the Legislative Assembly regarding the inclusion or exclusion of territory in a particular district, and conduct elections to resolve questions of annexation or succession on its own motion or through the receipt of a remonstrance petition.

Benefits of being in a service district include representation on the community college board of education and the ability to vote for board members, as well as in-district rates for community college courses. This corner of Lane County is the only portion of the county not included in the service district.

The Commission held public hearings at Lane Community College, in the petitioning territory, and direct mailed all registered voters in the territory to solicit feedback on inclusion. The Commission did not receive any negative feedback, although participation was minimal from all parties. The Commission is slated to approve an order for inclusion at the November 2020 meeting.

Proposed Solution

The legislature is required to approve the Commission's order prior to the order taking effect, and the LC serves as the vehicle for approval.