

Amendment No. 2

COMMITTEE/SUBCOMMITTEE ACTION

ADOPTED \_\_\_\_\_ (Y/N)  
ADOPTED AS AMENDED \_\_\_\_\_ (Y/N)  
ADOPTED W/O OBJECTION \_\_\_\_\_ (Y/N)  
FAILED TO ADOPT \_\_\_\_\_ (Y/N)  
WITHDRAWN \_\_\_\_\_ (Y/N)  
OTHER

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1 Committee/Subcommittee hearing bill: Economic Affairs Committee  
2 Representative Caldwell offered the following:

3  
4 **Amendment**

5 Remove lines 798-824 and insert:

6 In order for the Legislature to merge an active independent  
7 special district or districts created and operating pursuant to  
8 a special act, the special act merging the active independent  
9 special district or districts must be approved at separate  
10 referenda of the impacted local governments by a majority of the  
11 resident electors or, for districts in which a majority of  
12 governing board members are elected by landowners, a majority of  
13 the landowners voting in the same manner by which each  
14 independent special district's governing body is elected. The  
15 special act merging the districts must include a plan of merger  
16 that addresses transition issues such as the effective date of  
17 the merger, governance, administration, powers, pensions, and  
18 assumption of all assets and liabilities. If a local general-  
19 purpose government passes an ordinance or resolution in support

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20 of the merger of an active independent special district, the  
21 local general-purpose government must pay any expenses  
22 associated with the referendum required under this paragraph.

23 (b) Independent special districts created by a county or  
24 municipality.—A county or municipality may merge an independent  
25 special district created by the county or municipality pursuant  
26 to a referendum or any other procedure by which the independent  
27 special district was created. However, if the independent  
28 special district has ad valorem taxation powers, the same  
29 procedure required to grant the independent special district ad  
30 valorem taxation powers is required to merge the district.

31 The political subdivisions proposing the involuntary merger of  
32 an active independent special district must pay any expenses  
33 associated with the referendum required under this paragraph.

34 (c) Inactive independent special districts.—An independent