

STORAGE NAME: h1887z.lgva.doc

DATE: May 29, 2001

****AS PASSED BY THE LEGISLATURE****

CHAPTER #: 2001-345, Laws of Florida

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
COMMITTEE ON
LOCAL GOVERNMENT & VETERANS AFFAIRS
FINAL ANALYSIS – LOCAL LEGISLATION**

BILL #: HB 1887/1ST ENG

RELATING TO: Dorcas Fire District

SPONSOR(S): Representative Melvin & others

TIED BILL(S): None

ORIGINATING COMMITTEE(S)/COUNCIL(S)/COMMITTEE(S) OF REFERENCE:

- (1) LOCAL GOVERNMENT & VETERANS AFFAIRS (SGC) YEAS 8 NAYS 0
 - (2)
 - (3)
 - (4)
 - (5)
-

I. SUMMARY:

This bill amends the Dorcas Fire District boundaries, by transferring a specified area into the North Okaloosa Fire District, effective upon referendum approval.

II. SUBSTANTIVE ANALYSIS:

A. DOES THE BILL SUPPORT THE FOLLOWING PRINCIPLES:

- | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|---|
| 1. <u>Less Government</u> | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> | N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. <u>Lower Taxes</u> | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> | N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. <u>Individual Freedom</u> | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> | N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. <u>Personal Responsibility</u> | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> | N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. <u>Family Empowerment</u> | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> | N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

For any principle that received a "no" above, please explain:

B. PRESENT SITUATION:

The Dorcas Fire District (District) was created in September 1995, by county ordinance #84-39. The purpose of the District is to provide fire protection and other services in emergency and crisis situations for the benefit of the residents and properties within the District. Currently the providers of services to the District must travel through both the City of Crestview and the North Okaloosa Fire District in response to any call.

C. EFFECT OF PROPOSED CHANGES:

The current provision of services to the residents of a certain area by the Dorcas Fire District is achieved only after travel through both the City of Crestview and the North Okaloosa Fire District. The property in question is immediately adjacent to the North Okaloosa Fire District.

The bill provides that upon approval of referendum of chapter 2001-333, Laws of Florida, this particular parcel of land is transferred into the North Okaloosa Fire District. The property will no longer be served by the Dorcas Fire District. No other changes to the Dorcas Fire District are effectuated by this bill.

D. SECTION-BY-SECTION ANALYSIS:

Section 1. States Legislative intent that District personnel when responding to any call in a certain described area, must travel through both the City of Crestview and the North Okaloosa Fire District; states that the property is immediately adjacent to the North Okaloosa Fire District.

Section 2. Provides that contingent on passage of a referendum codifying the county ordinances and creating the charter for the North Okaloosa Fire District provided in chapter 2001-333, Laws of Florida, certain property shall be served by the North Okaloosa Fire District; provides boundary description of the area no longer served by the Dorcas Fire District.

Section 3. Provides contingent effective date of voter approval provided in chapter 2001-333, Laws of Florida, relating to the North Okaloosa Fire District.

III. NOTICE/REFERENDUM AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS:

A. NOTICE PUBLISHED? Yes No

IF YES, WHEN? February 20, 2001

WHERE? Daily News in Fort Walton Beach, Okaloosa, Santa Rosa and Walton Counties, Florida

B. REFERENDUM(S) REQUIRED? Yes No

IF YES, WHEN? However, the effect of this bill is contingent on the outcome of the referendum provided in chapter 2001-333, Laws of Florida.

C. LOCAL BILL CERTIFICATION FILED? Yes, attached No

D. ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT FILED? Yes, attached No

IV. COMMENTS:

A. CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES:

N/A

B. RULE-MAKING AUTHORITY:

N/A

C. OTHER COMMENTS:

The 2001 Economic Impact Statement estimates costs of administration, implementation, and enforcement for expenditures are \$750 for fiscal year (FY) 2001-2002 and FY 2002-2003. The local anticipated source of funding is \$900 for FY 2001-2002 and FY 2002-2003. The anticipated decreased revenue is \$900 for FY 2001-2002 and FY 2002-2003. According to the 2001 Economic Impact Statement, the estimated economic impact on individuals, businesses, or government's advantage is the homes and business will receive better fire and emergency coverage's due to the closer proximity of North Okaloosa Fire District to this area. For Dorcas Fire District to get to this area we would have to drive 25-27 miles one way through the city limits of Crestview to reach someone's home in the event of an emergency. The disadvantage is the North Okaloosa Fire District assesses more per home and also assesses vacant property in their fire district, than Dorcas Fire District, currently assesses. This estimate is based on information provided by the 2000 Okaloosa County Tax Roll.

V. AMENDMENTS OR COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE CHANGES:

The Committee on Local Government & Veterans Affairs adopted two amendments on April 19, 2001. The first amendment clarifies that the district's charter is being codified rather than created. The second amendment clarifies the date the act becomes law. The House approved the amendments on April 24, 2001 and passed the bill as amended.

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VI. SIGNATURES:

COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT & VETERANS AFFAIRS:

Prepared by:

Staff Director:

Terri S. Boggis

Joan Highsmith-Smith

FINAL ANALYSIS PREPARED BY THE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT & VETERANS AFFAIRS:

Prepared by:

Staff Director:

Terri S. Boggis

Joan Highsmith-Smith