

HCS HB 2180 -- ROAD DISTRICT CONSOLIDATION

SPONSOR: Fitzpatrick

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with Amendments" by the Standing Committee on Local Government by a vote of 10 to 0. Voted "Do Pass with HCS" by the Select Committee on State and Local Governments by a vote of 10 to 0.

This bill authorizes a county commission to combine two or more road districts within the county upon petition request by a majority of the commissioners in each of the road districts seeking to be combined. The county commission must hold a public hearing after publishing notice for a period of four weeks in a newspaper of general circulation in the county. The county may issue an order to consolidate the districts if it finds, after the public hearing, that the consolidation is in the public good. The bill also designates the procedure for appointing commissioners to the new consolidated district and transferring of assets, liabilities, and tax levies. The provisions for consolidation do not apply to road districts located in two counties. The State Auditor is authorized to audit any special road district created under Chapter 233 in the same manner as state agency audits are conducted.

This bill is the same as SB 867 (2016).

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that allowing the road districts to consolidate would result in a better utilization of their collective resources.

Testifying for the bill was Representative Fitzpatrick.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.