

STORAGE NAME: h1887a.lgva.doc
DATE: April 19, 2001

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

BILL #: HB 1887
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)
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I. SUMMARY:

This bill amends the Dorcas Fire District boundaries, by special act, to annex property into the North Okaloosa Fire District, effective upon referendum approval.

On April 19, 2001, the Committee on Local Government & Veterans Affairs considered HB 1887, adopted 2 amendments, and passed the bill. The amendments, which are traveling with the bill, are explained in this bill analysis. (See section V. "AMENDMENTS OR COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE CHANGES:")

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.

C. EFFECT OF PROPOSED CHANGES:

The bill states the District must travel through both the City of Crestview and the North Okaloosa Fire District in response to any call in the following described property and the property is immediately adjacent to the North Okaloosa Fire District.

The bill provides a referendum for this special act and the special act creating the charter for the North Okaloosa Fire District. The bill describes property that will be served by the North Okaloosa Fire District and the property that will no longer to be served by the Dorcas Fire District.

D. SECTION-BY-SECTION ANALYSIS:

- Section 1. States Legislative intent that the District personnel must travel through both the City of Crestview and the North Okaloosa Fire District in response to any call in the property that is described in the bill; states that the property is immediately adjacent to the North Okaloosa Fire District.
- Section 2. Providing that contingent on passage of a referendum codifying the county ordinances and creating the charter for the North Okaloosa Fire District, the following described property shall be served by the North Okaloosa Fire District; provides boundary description of an area no longer to be served by the Dorcas Fire District.
- Section 3. Provides contingent effective date of House Bill 979, the North Okaloosa Fire District, becoming law, after approval by voters.

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? This referendum is linked to the passage of HB 979, and the referendum included in HB 979.

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.

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VI. SIGNATURES:

COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT & VETERANS AFFAIRS:

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