

HOUSE BILL NO. 375
INTRODUCED BY GOULD

IN THE HOUSE

JANUARY 24, 1989	INTRODUCED AND REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT.
JANUARY 25, 1989	FIRST READING.
FEBRUARY 1, 1989	COMMITTEE RECOMMEND BILL DO PASS AS AMENDED. REPORT ADOPTED.
FEBRUARY 2, 1989	PRINTING REPORT.
FEBRUARY 3, 1989	SECOND READING, DO PASS.
FEBRUARY 4, 1989	ENGROSSING REPORT.
FEBRUARY 6, 1989	THIRD READING, PASSED. AYES, 97; NOES, 0.
	TRANSMITTED TO SENATE.

IN THE SENATE

FEBRUARY 7, 1989	INTRODUCED AND REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT.
	FIRST READING.
MARCH 10, 1989	COMMITTEE RECOMMEND BILL BE CONCURRED IN AS AMENDED. REPORT ADOPTED.
MARCH 11, 1989	SECOND READING, CONCURRED IN.
MARCH 14, 1989	THIRD READING, CONCURRED IN. AYES, 46; NOES, 2.
	RETURNED TO HOUSE WITH AMENDMENTS.

IN THE HOUSE

MARCH 16, 1989	RECEIVED FROM SENATE.
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MARCH 17, 1989

SECOND READING, AMENDMENTS
CONCURRED IN.

THIRD READING, AMENDMENTS
CONCURRED IN.

SENT TO ENROLLING.

REPORTED CORRECTLY ENROLLED.

1 House BILL NO. 375
2 INTRODUCED BY [Signature]
3
4 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT ALLOWING THE
5 CONSOLIDATION OF RURAL FIRE DISTRICTS; AND PROVIDING A
6 PROCEDURE FOR CONSOLIDATION."
7
8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:
9 NEW SECTION. Section 1. Consolidation of fire
10 districts. (1) Two or more rural fire districts may
11 consolidate to form a single rural fire district upon an
12 affirmative vote of each rural fire district's board of
13 trustees. At the time they vote to consolidate, the boards
14 of trustees must also adopt a consolidation plan. The plan
15 must contain:
16 (a) a timetable for consolidation, including the
17 effective date of consolidation, which must be after the
18 time allowed for protests to the creation of the
19 consolidated rural fire district under subsection (3);
20 (b) the name of the new rural fire district;
21 (c) a boundary map of the new rural fire district; and
22 (d) the estimated financial impact of consolidation on
23 the average taxpayer within the proposed district.
24 (2) Within 14 days of the date that the trustees vote
25 to consolidate, notice of the consolidation must be

1 published as provided in 7-1-2121 in each county in which
2 any part of the consolidated fire district will be located.
3 (3) Property owners of each affected rural fire
4 district may submit written protests opposing consolidation
5 to the trustees of their district. If within 30 days of the
6 first publication of notice, more than 50% of the property
7 owners in an existing district protest the consolidation, it
8 is void.
9 (4) After consolidation, the former rural fire
10 districts constitute a single rural fire district governed
11 under the provisions of 7-33-2104 through 7-33-2106.

-End-

APPROVED BY COMM.
ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

HOUSE BILL NO. 375

INTRODUCED BY GOULD

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT ALLOWING THE
CONSOLIDATION OF RURAL FIRE DISTRICTS; AND PROVIDING A
PROCEDURE FOR CONSOLIDATION."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

NEW SECTION. **Section 1.** Consolidation of fire
districts. (1) Two or more rural fire districts may
consolidate to form a single rural fire district upon an
affirmative vote of each rural fire district's board of
trustees. At the time they vote to consolidate, the boards
of trustees must also adopt a consolidation plan. The plan
must contain:

(a) a timetable for consolidation, including the
effective date of consolidation, which must be after the
time allowed for protests to the creation of the
consolidated rural fire district under subsection (3);

(b) the name of the new rural fire district;

(c) a boundary map of the new rural fire district; and

(d) the estimated financial impact of consolidation on
the average taxpayer within the proposed district.

(2) Within 14 days of the date that the trustees vote
to consolidate, notice of the consolidation must be

published as provided in 7-1-2121 in each county in which
any part of the consolidated fire district will be located.
A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE CONSOLIDATION MUST BE HELD WITHIN 14
DAYS OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF NOTICE. THE HEARING MUST BE
HELD BEFORE THE JOINT BOARDS OF TRUSTEES AT A TIME AND PLACE
SET FORTH IN THE PUBLICATION OF NOTICE.

(3) Property owners of each affected rural fire
district may submit written protests opposing consolidation
to the trustees of their district. If within 30 days of the
first publication of notice, more than 50% of the property
owners in an existing district protest the consolidation, it
is void.

(4) After consolidation, the former rural fire
districts constitute a single rural fire district governed
under the provisions of 7-33-2104 through 7-33-2106.

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19 consolidated rural fire district under subsection (3);

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21 (c) a boundary map of the new rural fire district; and

22 (d) the estimated financial impact of consolidation on
23 the average taxpayer within the proposed district.

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8 district may submit written protests opposing consolidation
9 to the trustees of their district. If within 30 days of the
10 first publication of notice, more than 50% of the property
11 owners in an existing district protest the consolidation, it
12 is void.

13 (4) After consolidation, the former rural fire
14 districts constitute a single rural fire district governed
15 under the provisions of 7-33-2104 through 7-33-2106.

-End-

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

March 10, 1989

MR. PRESIDENT:

We, your committee on Local Government, having had under consideration HB 375 (third reading copy -- blue), respectfully report that HB 375 be amended and as so amended be concurred in:

Sponsor: Gould (Walker)

1. Page 2, line 9.

Strike: "30"

Insert: "21"

AND AS AMENDED BE CONCURRED IN

Signed:


Ethel M. Harding, Chairman

SENATE

HB 375

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(a) a timetable for consolidation, including the effective date of consolidation, which must be after the time allowed for protests to the creation of the consolidated rural fire district under subsection (3);

(b) the name of the new rural fire district;

(c) a boundary map of the new rural fire district; and

(d) the estimated financial impact of consolidation on the average taxpayer within the proposed district.

(2) Within 14 days of the date that the trustees vote to consolidate, notice of the consolidation must be

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(3) Property owners of each affected rural fire district may submit written protests opposing consolidation to the trustees of their district. If within 30 21 days of the first publication of notice, more than 50% of the property owners in an existing district protest the consolidation, it is void.

(4) After consolidation, the former rural fire districts constitute a single rural fire district governed under the provisions of 7-33-2104 through 7-33-2106.

-End-