

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
**LOCAL BILL ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT FORM**

*\*Read all instructions carefully.\**

*House local bill policy prohibits a local bill from being considered by a committee or subcommittee without an Economic Impact Statement. This form must be prepared by an individual who is qualified to establish fiscal data and impacts and has personal knowledge of the information given (for example, a chief financial officer of a particular local government) and include information for the first two full fiscal years after the effective date of the local bill. Please file this completed form with the Clerk of the House as soon as possible after a bill is filed. Additional pages may be attached as necessary.*

**BILL #:** HB 897  
**SPONSOR(S):** Patt Maney  
**RELATING TO:** Dorcas Fire District, An independent fire control district in Northeast Okaloosa County  
[Indicate Area Affected (City, County or Special District) and Subject]

**Check if this is a revised Economic Impact Statement**

**I. REVENUES:**

These figures are new revenues that would not exist but for the passage of the bill. The term "revenue" contemplates, but is not limited to, taxes, fees, and special assessments. For example, license plate fees may be a revenue source. If the bill will add or remove property or individuals from the tax base, include this information as well.

	<u>First FY</u>	<u>Second FY</u>
Revenue decrease due to bill:	\$ <u>0.00</u>	\$ <u>0.00</u>
Revenue increase due to bill:	\$ <u>0.00</u>	\$ <u>0.00</u>

**II. COST:**

Include all costs, both direct and indirect, including start-up costs. If the bill repeals the existence of a certain entity, state the related costs, such as satisfying liabilities and distributing assets.

Expenditures for Implementation, Administration, and Enforcement:

	<u>First FY</u>	<u>Second FY</u>
	\$ <u>75,874.66</u>	\$ <u>81,298.00</u>

Please include explanations and calculations regarding how each dollar figure was determined in reaching total cost.

It is anticipated that start-up costs of amending the Dorcas Fire District from an independent district to a dependent district under the oversight of the Okaloosa County Board of County Commissioners could potentially have a cost impact of 10-25% of anticipated revenues for the next two fiscal years. Amounts listed represent 25% of the anticipated revenues for the next two fiscal years based on historical collections.

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3. Disadvantages to Government:

~~With Okaloosa County assuming the oversight and responsibility for the dependent district, the public safety department will have increased responsibilities. Okaloosa County does not currently operate a fire service- they are all municipal, volunteer or special district. This will cause a deviation in the operational plan.~~

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**V. DESCRIBE THE POTENTIAL IMPACT OF THE BILL ON PRESENT GOVERNMENTAL SERVICES:**

~~It is expected that fire protection services in Dorcas Fire District will be enhanced with proper oversight of the collect and use of the fire assessments. There is a potential for enhanced mutual aid services among the neighboring fire districts (North Okaloosa, Laurel Hill, and Crestview). Currently the Dorcas Fire District receives mutual aid on many calls.~~

~~Okaloosa County Public Safety will take on a new role and responsibility as it relates to the fire district.~~

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**VI. SPECIFIC DATA USED IN REACHING ESTIMATES:**

Include the type(s) and source(s) of data used, percentages, dollar figures, all assumptions made, history of the industry/issue affected by the bill, and any audits.

~~Historic fire assessment collections for fiscal years 2020, 2021, and 2022 were utilized to assess the likely collections for 2023 and 2024 based on anticipated growth in the district but with no increase to fire assessment rates. Given the unknown condition of the existing fire district equipment and no clear picture of existing operations, the county estimates an approximate 25% cost impact associated with direct and indirect start up costs. While no immediate increase to fire assessment rates is anticipated as part of the amendment to the fire district dependency, there is a potential that Okaloosa County would increase rates to fully fund operations. Call for service data was retrieved from Okaloosa County Communications CAD to assess project scope and cost of service per call.~~

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**VII. CERTIFICATION BY PREPARER**

I hereby certify I am qualified to establish fiscal data and impacts and have personal knowledge of the information given. I have reviewed all available financial information applicable to the substance of the above-stated local bill and confirm the foregoing