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First Regular Session - 2019

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HOUSE BILL NO. 272

BY REVENUE AND TAXATION COMMITTEE

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1	AN ACT
2	RELATING TO SCHOOL DISTRICTS; AMENDING SECTION 33-308, IDAHO CODE, TO REVISE
3	PROVISIONS REGARDING CERTAIN VOTER APPROVAL OF THE ASSUMPTION OF BONDED
4	INDEBTEDNESS AND INTEREST WITH REGARD TO SCHOOL DISTRICT EXCISIONS AND
5	ANNEXATIONS AND TO MAKE TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS; AND DECLARING AN EMER-
6	GENCY.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

SECTION 1. That Section 33-308, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:

- 33-308. EXCISION AND ANNEXATION OF TERRITORY. (1) A board of trustees of any school district, including a specially chartered school district, or one-fourth (1/4) or more of the school district electors, residing in an area of not more than fifty (50) square miles within which there is no schoolhouse or facility necessary for the operation of a school district, may petition in writing proposing the annexation of the area to another and contiguous school district.
- (2) Such petition shall be in duplicate, one (1) copy of which shall be presented to the board of trustees of the district from which the area is proposed to be excised, and the other to the board of trustees of the district to which the area is proposed to be annexed. The petition shall contain:
 - (a) The names and addresses of the petitioners;
 - (b) A legal description of the area proposed to be excised from one (1) district and annexed to another contiguous district. Such legal description shall be prepared by a licensed attorney, licensed professional land surveyor or licensed professional engineer professionally trained and experienced in legal descriptions of real property;
 - (c) Maps showing the boundaries of the districts as they presently appear and as they would appear should the excision and annexation be approved;
 - (d) The names of the school districts from and to which the area is proposed to be excised and annexed;
 - (e) A description of reasons for which the petition is being submitted; and
 - (f) An estimate of the number of children residing in the area described in the petition.
- (3) The board of trustees of each school district, no later than ten (10) days after its first regular meeting held subsequent to receipt of the petition, shall transmit the petition, with recommendations, to the state department of education.
 - (4) The state board of education shall approve the proposal, provided:
 - (a) The excision and annexation is in the best interests of the children residing in the area described in the petition; and

(b) The excision of the territory, as proposed, would not leave a school district with a bonded debt in excess of the limit then prescribed by law.

If either condition is not met, the state board shall disapprove the proposal. The approval or disapproval shall be expressed in writing to the board of trustees of each school district named in the petition.

- (5) If the state board of education shall approve the proposal, it shall be submitted to the school district electors residing in the area described in the petition, submit the ballot questions to the appropriate voters as described in subsections (6) and (7) of this section at an election held in the manner provided in chapter 14, title 34, Idaho Code. Such election shall be held on the date authorized in section 34-106, Idaho Code, which that is nearest to sixty (60) days after the state board approves the proposal.
- (6) At the election there shall be submitted to the electors having the qualifications of electors in a school district bond election and residing in the area proposed to be annexed:
 - (a) The question of whether the area described in the petition shall be excised from school district no. () and annexed to contiguous school district no. (); and
 - (b) The question of assumption of the appropriate proportion of any bonded debt, and the interest thereon, of the proposed annexing school district.
- electors having the qualifications of electors in a school district bond election and residing in the area remaining in the district from which the area is proposed to be excised. The question shall ask such electors whether they approve the assumption of the portion of the school district bond and the interest thereon held by the electors proposing to leave the school district. This subsection shall apply only to a proposed excision from a school district that has a bonded indebtedness and where the proposed excision would subtract fifteen percent (15%) or more of the market value for assessment purposes on the property in the school district from which the area is proposed to be excised.
- (8) If a majority of the school district electors in the area described in the petition, voting in the election, shall vote in favor of the proposal to excise and annex the said area, and if in the area the electors voting on the question questions of the assumption of bonded debt and interest set forth in subsections (6) and (7) of this section, if applicable, have approved such assumption by the proportion of votes cast as is required by section 3, article VIII, of the constitution of the state of Idaho, the proposal shall carry and be approved. Otherwise, it shall fail.
- ($\frac{89}{2}$) If the proposal shall be approved by the electors in the manner prescribed, the board of canvassers shall thereupon promptly notify the state department of education and the affected school districts of such results. The superintendent of public instruction shall make an appropriate order for the boundaries of the affected school districts to be altered, and the legal descriptions of the school districts shall be altered, as prescribed in section 33-307, Idaho Code.

SECTION 2. An emergency existing therefor, which emergency is hereby declared to exist, this act shall be in full force and effect on and after its passage and approval.