Bill Summary 1st Session of the 58th Legislature

Bill No.: SB 189
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Bill Analysis

SB 189 creates the Oklahoma Hazard Mitigation Assessment District Act. The measure authorizes the governing board of a county to create a hazard mitigation assessment district via a resolution passed by the board and approved by a 60% yes vote by county residents. Costs for the election shall be determined by the county board. A majority vote of residents in the county may dissolve the district. The county board shall be responsible for filing quarterly reports on the activities of the hazard mitigation assessment district.

Hazard mitigation districts shall include the entire county and be administered by 7 trustees as outlined in the measure. Additionally, the governing board of the county may opt to create an advisory body for the district, which shall be comprised of 13 members as outlined in the measure. The measure provides for operations and acquisitions of capital property and improvements of the district to be funded by a 2-mill annual assessment on property in the county. The measure exempts agricultural property as well as any property exempted and later re-zoned at the time of the creation of the district from the annual assessment. Assessments are to be regarded as a lien on the assessed property until paid.

Administrative costs may not exceed 5% of the total amount of assessment collected annually for the administration of the hazard mitigation plan. The annual assessment may not be used to supplant or be used in exchange for any current appropriations dedicated for and expended for hazard mitigation or disaster recovery expenditures. Additionally, in counties determined to be completely or mostly rural by the Federal Decennial Census, no less than 40% of the annual assessment collected in the county must be used for mitigation improvements, disaster recovery, or both impacting agricultural property.

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