

WHICH BILLS PROVIDE MEANINGFUL OVERSIGHT, REQUIRE MEANINGFUL SERVICES, AND A MEANINGFUL VOICE??

NO TO HOUSE BILL 525!!

- This bill gives the Local Government Commission, made up of predominately municipal officials, ‘rubber stamp’ oversight of forced annexation. This is the fox guarding the henhouse.
- This bill gives unfair preferential treatment to areas served by government water and sewer utilities by giving only this class of property owners a right to vote for or against a city initiated annexation.

NO TO SENATE BILL 472 (H727)

- These bills were written by the NCLM and they do nothing to address the problems recognized by the Study Commission showing that city initiated annexations need oversight, higher requirements for meaningful services, and a meaningful voice for the affected property owners.
- They include throwing money at the municipalities to do what they were suppose to do when they were given the power to forcibly annex, which was to provide needed urban services to areas in need of them.
- They DO NOT provide any meaningful oversight, a meaningful voice to the property owners, nor a requirement that the services provided are meaningful.

NO TO HOUSE BILL 524

- This bill does not require meaningful services or meaningful oversight. The bill is full of small changes that do nothing to address the real problems of lack of oversight or duplicating perfectly good existing services. It gives a vote ONLY to property owners who are already on a water and sewer treatment system. To single out just these property owners for allowing a vote makes no sense. Property owners with perfectly good private onsite systems have no vote.
- This bill takes away the rights of some people in voluntary annexation petitions by allowing 75% of the people in an area to overrule the wishes of the other 25%.

NO TO SENATE BILL 711

- Although this bill is pretty tough with revisions to the law that would make city initiated annexations either impossible for some cities or much harder for others, it does not provide any meaningful oversight, it allows cities to forcibly annex without providing water and sewer, and does not prevent annexation of areas that don’t need the urban municipal services. The cities are still allowed to contract with the existing county service providers and call that “providing urban services”. And there is still no vote or direct representation of the affected property owners. The victims still have no voice or recourse with this bill.

S494 and H645 are the only two bills that address meaningful oversight by directly elected County officials. They require the city to prove that urban services are needed and meaningful And they provide an opportunity for the property owners to vote for or against the city initiated annexation. They also provide better recourse if the municipality fails to deliver all urban services within a defined reasonable time frame.