

the merged district becomes compliant within that 90 days, the payments shall resume. If the merged district does not become compliant within 90 days, then the department's aid will be reduced to one share.

Additionally, when a new volunteer fire department created within the territory of an existing merged fire department, the newly created volunteer fire district would receive one share of aid at the next disbursement date and the parent fire department's aid will be reduced by one share for the twenty years subsequent to the merger.

HB 13 provides for the adoption of an alternative trustee board structure. Upon adoption of the alternative trustee board structure, the board will consist of seven members: one appointed by the county judge/executive or executive head of a merged government who shall reside within the boundaries of that county if that county contains a first class city; two elected by firefighters, and four shall be property owners who reside in the district elected by the property owners of the districts. The terms shall be staggered. Procedures for the election and removal of an elected firefighter trustee are provided.

HB 13 details tax rate provisions for districts and subdistricts. Initially, the board shall keep the tax rates in place immediately prior to adoption. The tax, not to exceed \$0.15 per \$100, shall be used for the establishment, maintenance, and operation of the fire department or to make contracts for protection for the districts. If the fire protection district operates both a fire department and an emergency medical service, a tax, not to exceed \$0.25 per \$100, may be levied for the establishment, maintenance, and operation of the fire department and emergency ambulance services, and if certified as being needed, supplemental emergency medical services including EMR, EMT, EMT-A, and paramedic services. The district may request the Department of Local government calculate the compensating rate and the rate that would produce 4% above the compensating rate

The property valuation administrator shall update the tax rolls with the taxpayers' and valuation of the property subject to the new assessment and the county clerk shall certify the tax on the regular state and county tax bills. Any expenses should be easily absorbed.

KRS 75.040 (4) entitles the sheriff of the county to a fee of one percent of the amount of property taxes collected by him. Whereas the same property within the merged districts would be taxed at a higher rate, this would result in increased fee revenue for the Sheriff's Office.

The fiscal impact of HB 13 on local fire districts and counties is indeterminable.

Part III: Differences to Local Government Mandate Statement from Prior Versions

The Part II section above pertains to the bill as drafted and there are no prior versions of the bill to complete the Part III section.

Data Source(s): LRC Staff

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