

HB 2726 -- FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICTS

SPONSOR: Bangert

Under this bill, if one or more fire protection districts serve any portion of a city with a charter form of government located in a county with a charter form of government with a population of 900,000 or more inhabitants which has a municipal fire department, the boundaries of such districts may be expanded so as to include areas within the city, but shall not expand beyond the city limits of such city as it existed on July 1, 2020.

Such a change in the district boundaries shall be accomplished if the governing body of the city files with the board of any such fire protection district a written consent for the board to seek approval of the circuit court to submit the question of the extension of the district's boundaries to the registered voters of the area.

If a majority of the voters voting on the proposition vote in favor of the extension of the boundaries of the district, then the court shall enter an order declaring the extension of the boundaries of the fire district to be final and conclusive (Section 321.300, RSMo).

Currently, the only cities to which this may apply include Berkeley, Clayton, Crestwood, Ferguson, Hazelwood, Kirkwood, Maplewood, Olivette, Richmond Heights, University City, and Webster Groves, all within St. Louis County.