

Special Districts 101

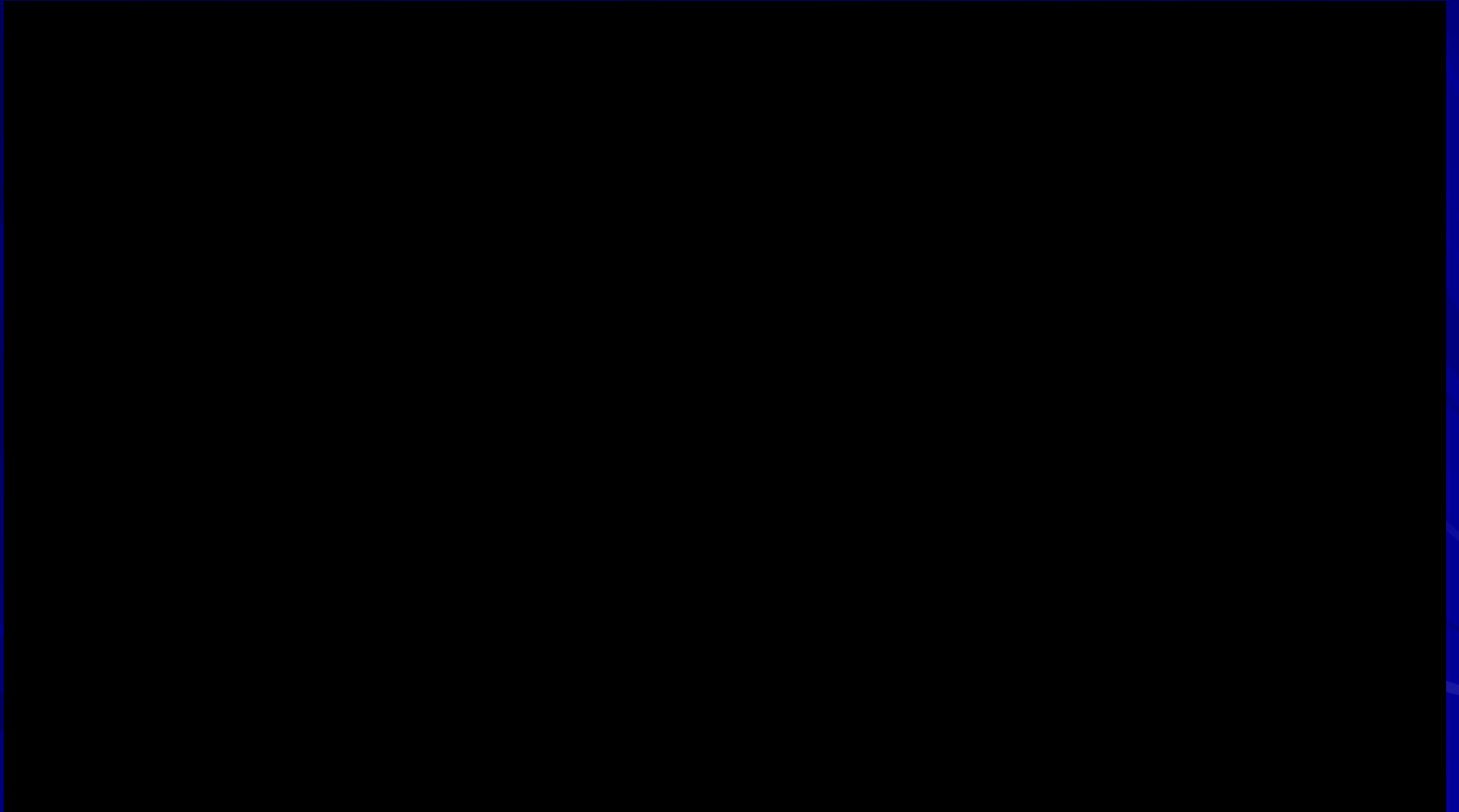
- What is a special district?
- SDAO overview
- How are they formed?
- Regulation and oversight
- Geospatial data

What's a Special District?

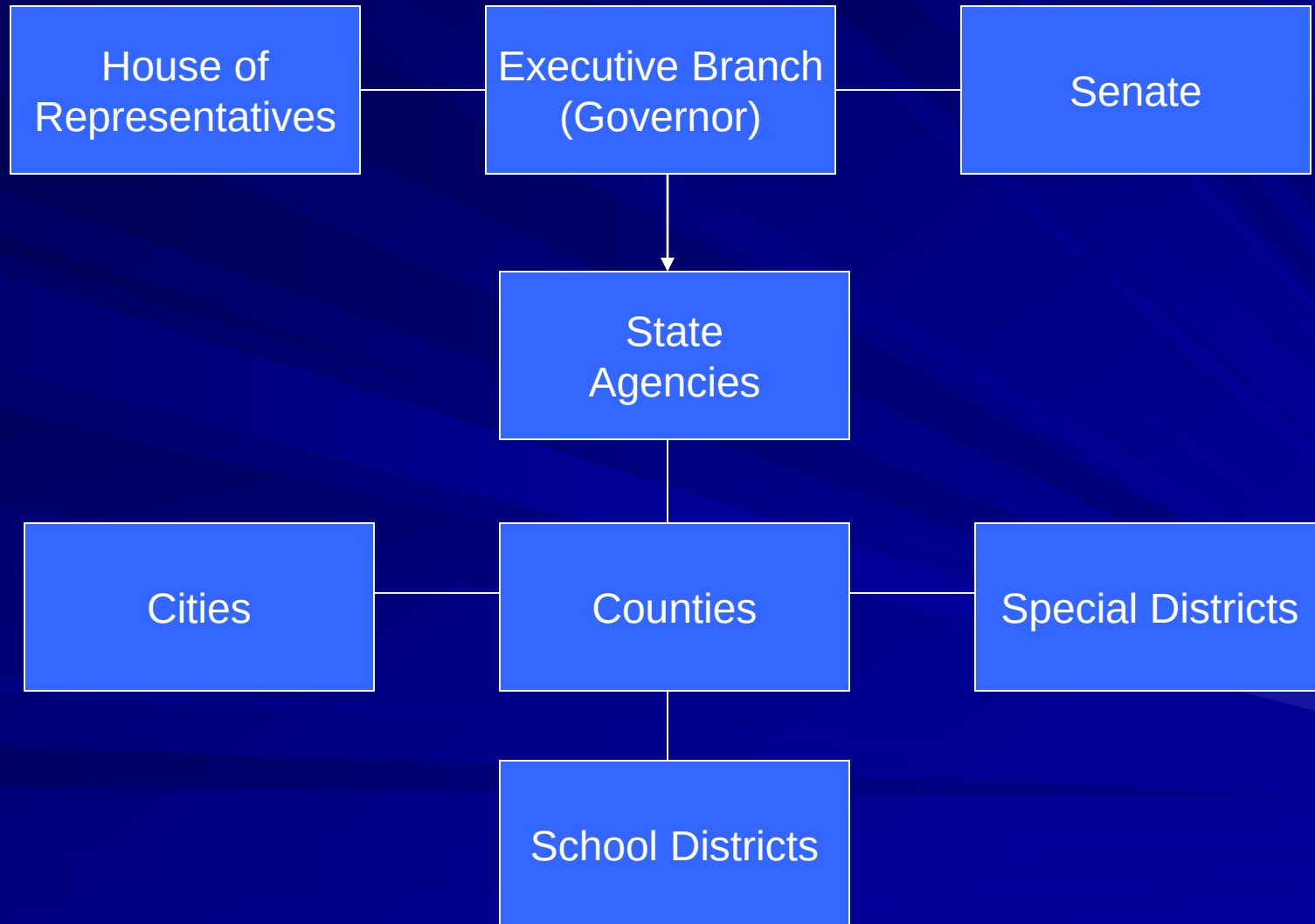
- Nearly any type of local government that's not a city, county, or school district
- ORS Chapter 198
- 32 Types – Each with its own ORS Chapter
- Over 1,000 statewide
- Fastest growing type of government nationwide

Member Type	Count
Rural Fire Protection District	249
Domestic Water	129
Irrigation	76
Road	70
Sanitary	50
Park & Recreation	48
Soil & Water Conservation	35
Cemetery	32
Hospital / Health	26
Drainage	24
Port	23
Library	22
Water Control	19
Vector	17
Transit	11
Public Utility	9
Communications	9
County Service	5
Council of Government	1

Special District Video



State Government 101

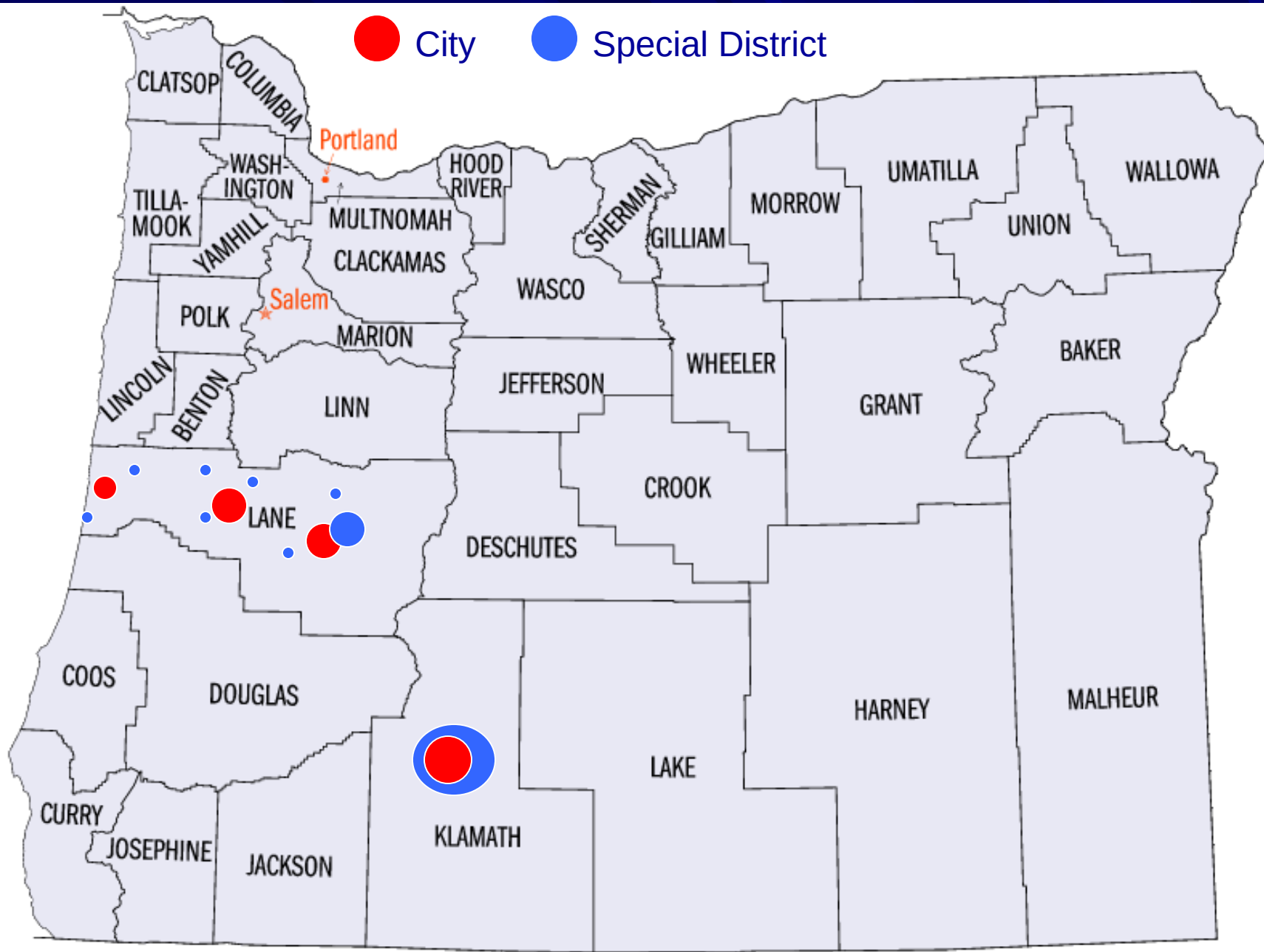




City

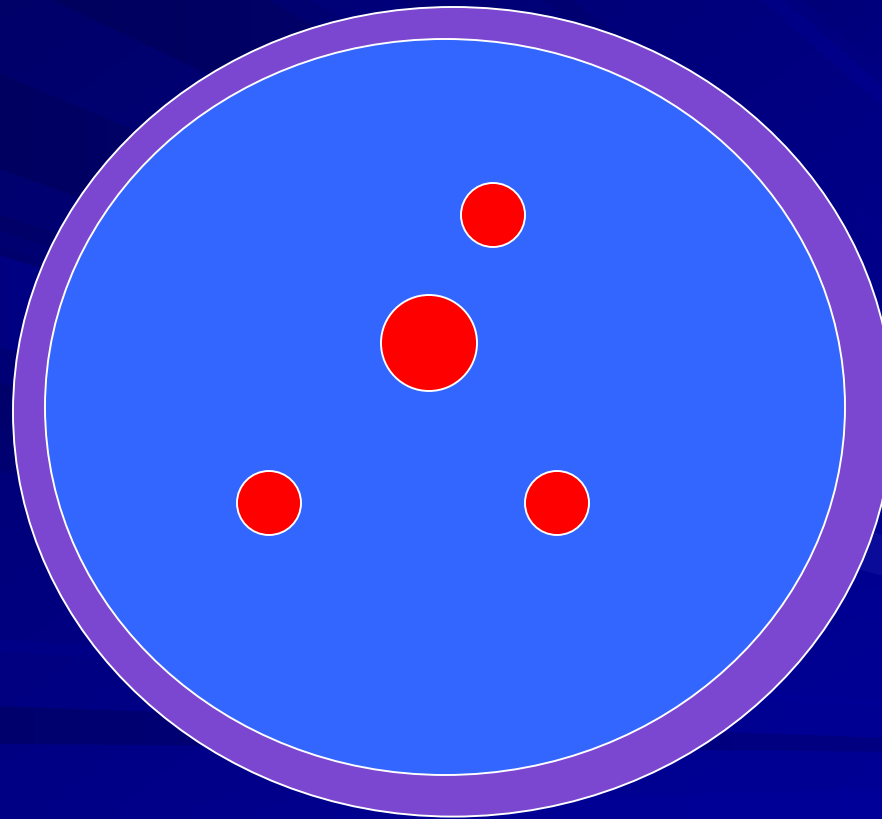


Special District



Washington County

● City ● Water District ● Fire District



Formation of a Special District

- Petition for formation submitted to County
 - Includes a boundary description
- County shall approve, modify, or reject petition
- If approval is ordered, a final hearing is held
- Elections (formation request and board members)
- Funding mechanism – taxes or rates

Regulation/Oversight

■ State of Oregon

- Grants the right to exist through law
- Changes to existing statute
- State agency oversight for certain functions
 - BOLI
 - DEQ
 - Water Resources
 - DCBS
 - Government Standards and Practices
 - Secretary of State
 - OR-OSHA
 - Revenue
 - Economic Development
 - Public Utility Commission (PUC) ?

Regulation/Oversight

■ Counties

- District formation
- Elections
- Assessor
- County roads/right-of-ways
- County courts
- Land use (unincorporated areas)
- Sheriff and Corrections
- Multi-county Districts governed by “Principal County”

Regulation/Oversight

■ Cities

- Land use (city limits and growth boundary)
- Annexation
- Authority to provide most types of municipal services
- City courts
- Urban renewal
- Streets

Regulation/Oversight

■ Special Districts

- Enabling ORS Statute
 - sdao.com (Resources)
- Board of Directors
 - Budget Committee
- Tax and rate payers
- No land use authority

Geospatial Data

- All Special Districts have a boundary
 - Important for Elections and Revenue
 - Most Districts rely on Counties to maintain
- Some Districts have other GIS data
 - Infrastructure
- Majority of Districts do not maintain GIS data
 - Limited staff and IT resources
- SDAO does not maintain any GIS data