

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

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<b>Action:</b>	Do Pass
<b>Vote:</b>	5 - 0 - 0
<b>Yeas:</b>	Baertschiger, Burdick, Close, Prozanski, Roblan
<b>Nays:</b>	0
<b>Exc.:</b>	0
<b>Prepared By:</b>	Racquel Rancier, Administrator
<b>Meeting Dates:</b>	2/28, 3/7

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:** Allows governing body of public body owning land in approved or proposed diking or drainage district to appoint designee to act on behalf of and represent public body to exercise rights of landowner in district, including serving on board of supervisors.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Management structure and responsibilities of drainage districts
- Need for participation by district board members to address upcoming strategic initiatives that will require significant time commitment and technical expertise for drainage districts managed by Multnomah County Drainage District
- Different interpretations of whether public bodies may assign designee under current statute
- Designee would serve entire term on board of supervisors

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:** No amendment.

**BACKGROUND:** Drainage districts are formed to reclaim and drain swampy, wet or overflowed lands. Diking districts are formed in areas to dike or dam lands subject to overflow by tideswaters or freshets. The board of supervisors for a district is elected by landowners, with each owner receiving one vote per acre of land owned within the district. Only landowners are eligible to serve on the board of supervisors except when the landowner is a public body. In the case of lands belonging to a public body, the presiding officer or member of the governing body may act on behalf of the public body as a landowner within the district, including acting as a supervisor of the district.

Senate Bill 517 would authorize a governing body's designee to act on behalf of the public body in district matters, including acting as a supervisor of the district.