

SB 306

Relating to levee infrastructure

SB 306 adds levee inspection and repair projects to the qualified uses of the Special Public Works Fund. The bill authorizes the Infrastructure Finance Authority in the Oregon Business Development Department to provide loans or grants to support these projects. Entities eligible for financial assistance include local governments, drainage districts, corporations and other for-profit entities, nonprofit entities, and individuals.

The bill also authorizes the Water Resources Department, with a levee owner's permission, to inspect, evaluate, consult, and map levees; as well as to enter into intergovernmental agreements and accept and receive payment for services performed.

The administrative costs to OBDD of the new program are minimal. The agency has, however, submitted a request for funds for the grant and loans themselves. If approved, that funding will be provided in HB 5030, the Lottery Bond bill.

The Transportation and Economic Development Subcommittee recommends that SB 306 be amended by the -A2 amendment and be reported out do pass, as amended.