

SB 1517 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Carrier: Rep. Hudson

House Committee On Emergency Management, General Government, and Veterans

Action Date: 02/27/24
Action: Do Pass the A-Eng bill.
Vote: 6-0-1-0
Yeas: 6 - Dexter, Evans, Grayber, Hieb, Lewis, Tran
Exc: 1 - Conrad
Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued
Revenue: Revenue impact issued
Prepared By: Beverly Schoonover, LPRO Analyst
Meeting Dates: 2/27

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure permits the urban flood safety and water quality district to annually assess benefited lands within the managed floodplain to pay for the costs of district works that directly benefit the lands. It also permits the district to impose a fee on cities and counties for the fixed costs of operating the district and district works. The measure also modifies procedures related to dissolution of existing drainage districts and corporations. Takes effect on the 91st day following adjournment sine die.

Detailed Summary:

Section 2

Permits the board of directors of the urban flood safety and water quality district to impose an annual charge to pay for the costs of operating and maintaining district works that directly benefit lands situated within the managed floodplain of the district. Establishes what benefited lands may be subject to this annual charge. Establishes procedures for determining the amount of annual charge based on an assessment of all benefited lands. Provides the procedures the board of directors must follow for imposition of assessments.

Section 3

Permits the board of directors of the urban flood safety and water quality district to adopt an ordinance imposing a flood safety intergovernmental fee on incorporated cities and counties with territory situated within district boundaries. States the purpose of the fee. Establishes the procedure for determining the amount of the fee.

Section 4

Changes the timeline that the district will appoint and elect the board of directors.

Section 7

Adds procedures and a timeline to be followed after the urban flood safety and water quality district decides by resolution to dissolve any specified drainage district or specified corporation. Specifies liabilities that the urban flood safety and water quality district assume upon dissolution of drainage district or corporation.

Section 9

Specifies membership of initial district board following dissolution of drainage district or corporation.

Section 10

Takes effect on the 91st day following adjournment sine die.

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ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Impacts of the historic flooding in Vanport
- Examples of business, land, and residential use in the area
- Federal funding available with district matching funds

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Oregon's only urban flood safety and water quality district (district) is codified in ORS chapter 550, following passage of Senate Bill 431 in 2019. The district's purpose is to protect vital industrial land, transportation hubs, and drinking water sources through maintenance of the Columbia River levee system. A board of directors manages and conducts the affairs of the district. A large portion of northern Multnomah County, encompassing commercial areas and residential neighborhoods, is located within the district.

Senate Bill 1517 A permits the district to impose an assessment on benefits lands within the managed floodplain for the costs of operating and maintaining district works and impose a fee on cities and counties for the costs of operating the district. SB 1517 A also modifies procedures related to dissolution of existing drainage districts and corporations.