

HB 4067 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Veterans and Emergency Management

Prepared By: Patrick Brennan, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 2/1, 2/3, 2/10

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Revises provisions related to governing board for urban flood safety and water quality district. Authorizes district to bring civil action for certain actionable conditions. Takes effect on 91st day following adjournment sine die.

FISCAL - minimal fiscal impact on base measure

REVENUE - no revenue impact on base measure

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Intended to speed transition from drainage districts to flood safety district
- Transition from initial board to permanent elected board

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Senate Bill 431 (2019) established the urban flood safety and water quality district in Multnomah County to manage and improve the region’s levee system infrastructure and to improve and protect water quality, wildlife habitat, and landscape resiliency. Prior to the district’s creation, the 27-mile system of levees stretching from North Portland to the eastern metro area had been maintained by four local drainage districts that lacked the resources to provide for more than basic operations and that were unable to finance capital improvements. As a result, the region’s levees had fallen out of compliance with federal standards for levees that had been set by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Federal Emergency Management Agency in response to catastrophic levee failures in other regions of the country.

House Bill 4067 reorganizes statutes related to the governing board for the urban flood safety and water quality district.