

**SB 1517 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY****Carrier:** Sen. Gorsek**Senate Committee On Veterans, Emergency Management, Federal and World Affairs**


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**Action Date:** 02/15/24  
**Action:** Do pass with amendments. (Printed A-Eng.)  
**Vote:** 4-1-0-0  
**Yeas:** 4 - Gorsek, Manning Jr, Thatcher, Woods  
**Nays:** 1 - Linthicum  
**Fiscal:** Fiscal impact issued  
**Revenue:** Revenue impact issued  
**Prepared By:** Whitney Perez, LPRO Analyst  
**Meeting Dates:** 2/8, 2/15

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**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 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. Finally, the measure 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 annual charge to pay costs of operating and maintaining district works that directly benefit lands situated within 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 procedure for determining the amount of the fee.

**Section 4**

Permits the initial district board of the urban flood safety and water quality district to exercise the duties and powers related to the power to dissolve drainage district or corporation.

**Section 7**

Establishes procedures 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 assumes upon dissolution of drainage district or corporation.

**Section 9**

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

**Section 10**

## **SB 1517 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**

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

### **ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Areas included within the urban flood safety and water quality district
- Financial impact of annual assessment and fee
- Creation of the urban flood safety and water quality district in 2019
- Matching federal funds
- Certain lands owned by a public body may also be subject to assessment

### **EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:**

Clarifies that lands owned by a public body may be subject to the urban flood safety and water quality district annual charge when the lands owned by a public body are benefited lands.

### **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 costs of operating and maintaining district works and impose a fee on cities and counties for costs of operating the district. SB 1517 A also modifies procedures related to dissolution of existing drainage districts and corporations.