

SB 713 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Natural Resources and Wildfire

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Sub-Referral To: Joint Committee On Ways and Means

Meeting Dates: 3/20

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure authorizes the State Treasurer, at the request of the Department of Administrative Services, to issue \$15 million in lottery bonds by June 30, 2026, to fund levee projects. The net proceeds are required to be transferred to the Oregon Business Development Department for deposit into the Levee Project Grant Fund to provide grants for inspecting, certifying, and repairing levees. The measure finds that levees are essential to Oregon's commercial and industrial infrastructure, and that the use of lottery bond proceeds for the inspections, accreditation, certification, and repair of levees will promote economic development.

Fiscal impact: May have fiscal impact, but no statement yet issued.

Revenue impact: May have revenue impact, but no statement yet issued.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Senate Bill 5030 (2019) established the Levee Project Grant Fund, approving \$15 million in lottery bonds to institute the program. The program is managed by the Oregon Business Development Department and grant applicants are required to match at least 20 percent of the award amount to qualify. Awards are limited to \$2 million per applicant in a single biennium; and awards for construction or capital improvement projects are limited to 80 percent of the total project cost.

Senate Bill 622 (2021) expanded the definition of levee projects to include levee construction and capital improvements, flood control embankments, and flood control facilities.