
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1491

State of Washington 52nd Legislature 1991 Regular Session

By House Committee on Local Government (originally sponsored by Representatives R. Johnson, Haugen, Roland, Edmondson, Kremen, Nealey, Rayburn, Lisk, Spanel, Neher, Rasmussen, P. Johnson, Rust, Braddock, Wynne, Scott and Paris).

Read first time March 5, 1991.

1 AN ACT Relating to flood control improvements; and creating new
2 sections.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The department of community development
5 shall convene a state flood damage reduction commission composed of
6 twenty-two members as follows: (1) Four members of the senate, two
7 from each of the major caucuses, who are appointed by the president of
8 the senate; (2) four members of the house of representatives, two from
9 each of the major caucuses, who are appointed by the speaker of the
10 house of representatives; (3) the director of the department of
11 community development, or the director's designee, who shall act as
12 chair of the commission; (4) the director of the department of
13 fisheries, or the director's designee; (5) the director of the
14 department of wildlife, or the director's designee; (6) the director of
15 the department of agriculture, or the director's designee; (7) the

1 director of the department of ecology, or the director's designee; (8)
2 the director of the department of transportation, or the director's
3 designee, (9) the commissioner of public lands, or the commissioner's
4 designee; (10) the director of the parks and recreation commission, or
5 the director's designee; (11) four persons appointed by the governor
6 representing counties within which significant flood control
7 improvements have been constructed; and (12) two persons appointed by
8 the governor representing conservation districts and special districts
9 that provide flood control improvements.

10 The commission may seek assistance from appropriate federal
11 agencies, including the United States army corp of engineers. The
12 department of community development shall provide staff for the
13 commission and pay the expenses of commission members who are appointed
14 by the governor. The expenses of the legislative members shall be paid
15 by the legislature. The expenses of the state agency officials, or
16 their designees, shall be paid by their state agencies.

17 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** The state flood damage reduction
18 commission shall consider the development of comprehensive state flood
19 policies and a comprehensive and coordinated flood damage reduction
20 plan, including the following elements:

21 (1) Structural and nonstructural flood damage reduction projects;

22 (2) Forest practice effects on watershed hydraulics, including:

23 (a) Percentage of watershed clearcut; (b) logging in very steep areas;
24 and (c) logging in slide-prone areas;

25 (3) Growth management and land uses, including: (a) Flood plain
26 development patterns; (b) loss of potential natural flood water storage
27 areas; (c) future development restrictions in flood-prone areas; and
28 (d) coordination with the state's growth management act and county
29 flood comprehensive planning;

- 1 (4) Comprehensive watershed and flood damage management;
- 2 (5) Storm water runoff pattern alterations and accompanying
- 3 liabilities;
- 4 (6) Analysis of the federal, state, and local permitting
- 5 requirements necessary for projects designed to reduce future flood
- 6 damage or to restore areas damaged by floods, including any conflicting
- 7 requirements that may exist;
- 8 (7) Emergency work and coordination, and emergency preparedness
- 9 planning;
- 10 (8) Determination of the need for requirements to disclose the
- 11 flood hazard to purchasers or renters of flood-prone property;
- 12 (9) The role of dredging in flood damage reduction, including
- 13 environmental effects, funding sources, and upstream uses that alter
- 14 its effectiveness;
- 15 (10) The role of dikes and levees in flood damage reduction,
- 16 including environmental effects, construction and maintenance
- 17 standards, sources of funding for construction and maintenance, and
- 18 resultant upstream and downstream hydrologic effects;
- 19 (11) Review criteria for evaluating and approving local plans and
- 20 projects funded by grants from the flood control account; and
- 21 (12) Public acquisition of properties to reduce flood damage.

22 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** The state flood reduction commission
23 shall report its findings to the legislature on or before December 31,
24 1991. The report shall include the following: (1) Findings relating
25 to a state flood damage reduction plan; (2) commitments to implement
26 the plan; (3) recommended state agency regulation and policy changes;
27 (4) proposed legislation and associated costs to implement the state
28 flood damage reduction plan; and (5) recommended local flood reduction
29 and mitigation measures.