

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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This bill would modify drainage system repair requirements to allow the use of updated land values when determining whether certain repairs to a drainage system may proceed.

Under existing law, there is a provision allowing owners of land affected by a public drainage system to petition the drainage authority (county or watershed district) to make a repair to the system. The drainage authority is required to make the repair if: (1) the petition is signed by owners of at least 26 percent of the property area assessed for the original construction of the system; (2) the drainage authority determines that it is in need of repair; and (3) the costs of the repair do not exceed the total benefits of the system as determined by the original drainage system proceeding. The bill would allow the drainage authority to use the county assessor's most recent estimated market value in determining the total benefits rather than the values used during the original drainage system proceeding.