

**House File 2166 - Introduced**

HOUSE FILE 2166  
BY COMMITTEE ON STATE  
GOVERNMENT

(SUCCESSOR TO HSB 580)

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act designating certain county flood mitigation activities  
2 as an essential county purpose.  
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 331.441, subsection 2, paragraph b,  
2 subparagraph (20), Code 2022, is amended to read as follows:

3 (20) The construction, reconstruction, and improvement  
4 of all waterways, and real and personal property, useful  
5 for the protection or reclamation of property from floods  
6 or high waters, and for the protection of property from  
7 the effects of flood waters, including reconnection of  
8 floodplains, wetland and oxbow lake restoration, the deepening,  
9 widening, alteration, change, diversion, or other improvement  
10 of watercourses, the construction of levees, embankments,  
11 structures, impounding reservoirs, pumping stations or  
12 conduits, and the establishment, improvement, and widening of  
13 streets, avenues, boulevards, and alleys across and adjacent  
14 to the project, as well as the development and beautification  
15 of the banks and other areas adjacent to flood control  
16 improvements.

17 EXPLANATION

18 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with  
19 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

20 This bill amends the portion of the definition of "essential  
21 county purpose" relating to the protection of property from  
22 floodwaters to include the reconnection of floodplains and  
23 wetland and oxbow lake restoration.

24 Under Code chapter 331, a county board of supervisors may  
25 generally contract indebtedness and approve the issuance of  
26 general obligation bonds to carry out an essential county  
27 purpose without approval by voters at an election, while the  
28 issuance of general obligation bonds to carry out a general  
29 county purpose generally requires approval by voters at an  
30 election.