

House File 523 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 523
BY COMMITTEE ON STATE
GOVERNMENT

(SUCCESSOR TO HSB 56)

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, Code
2 2021, is amended by adding the following new subparagraph:
3 NEW SUBPARAGRAPH. (20) The construction, reconstruction,
4 and improvement of all waterways, and real and personal
5 property, useful for the protection or reclamation of property
6 from floods or high waters, and for the protection of property
7 from the effects of flood waters, including the deepening,
8 widening, alteration, change, diversion, or other improvement
9 of watercourses, the construction of levees, embankments,
10 structures, impounding reservoirs, pumping stations or
11 conduits, and the establishment, improvement, and widening of
12 streets, avenues, boulevards, and alleys across and adjacent
13 to the project, as well as the development and beautification
14 of the banks and other areas adjacent to flood control
15 improvements.

16 EXPLANATION

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

19 This bill amends the definition of essential county purpose
20 to include the construction, reconstruction, and improvement
21 of all waterways, and real and personal property, useful for
22 the protection or reclamation of property from floods or high
23 waters, and for the protection of property from the effects of
24 flood waters, including the deepening, widening, alteration,
25 change, diversion, or other improvement of watercourses,
26 the construction of levees, embankments, structures,
27 impounding reservoirs, pumping stations or conduits, and the
28 establishment, improvement, and widening of streets, avenues,
29 boulevards, and alleys across and adjacent to the project, as
30 well as the development and beautification of the banks and
31 other areas adjacent to flood control improvements.

32 Under Code chapter 331, a county board of supervisors may
33 generally contract indebtedness and approve the issuance of
34 general obligation bonds to carry out an essential county
35 purpose without approval by voters at an election, while the

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1 issuance of general obligation bonds to carry out a general
2 county purpose generally requires approval by voters at
3 election.