

**SENATE BILL REPORT**

**HJM 4009**

**AS OF MARCH 23, 1993**

**Brief Description:** Petitioning for consistency and flexibility of actions of the United States Army Corps of Engineers and the Federal Emergency Management Agency with regard to flood projects.

**SPONSORS:** Representatives R. Johnson, Quall, Veloria, Rust, Kremen and J. Kohl

**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS**

**SENATE COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES**

**Staff:** Vic Moon (786-7469)

**Hearing Dates:** April 2, 1993

**BACKGROUND:**

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) provides funding for federally declared flood disasters. FEMA policies require that most of the federal money for dike and levee reconstruction be used to restore the damaged structure to pre-existing conditions. This policy often results in similar damages during subsequent floods.

The state Department of Fisheries has established guidelines to encourage planting vegetation on dike and levee systems to reduce erosion. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers policies on vegetation management often discourage planting vegetation.

**SUMMARY:**

Congress is asked to amend the flood assistance laws regulating the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Federal Emergency Management Agency so that the agency will be more flexible.

**Appropriation:** none

**Revenue:** none

**Fiscal Note:** none requested