

# HOUSE BILL REPORT

## HB 1285

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**As Passed House:**  
March 7, 2019

**Title:** An act relating to adding the treasurer to the public works board.

**Brief Description:** Adding the treasurer to the public works board.

**Sponsors:** Representatives Doglio, Steele, Kirby, Tharinger, Ryu, DeBolt, Volz, Dolan, Frame and Rude; by request of State Treasurer.

**Brief History:**

**Committee Activity:**

Capital Budget: 2/19/19, 2/26/19 [DP].

**Floor Activity:**

Passed House: 3/7/19, 93-4.

**Brief Summary of Bill**

- Increases the membership of the Public Works Board and adds the State Treasurer or State Treasurer's designee.

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### HOUSE COMMITTEE ON CAPITAL BUDGET

**Majority Report:** Do pass. Signed by 23 members: Representatives Tharinger, Chair; Doglio, Vice Chair; Peterson, Vice Chair; DeBolt, Ranking Minority Member; Smith, Assistant Ranking Minority Member; Steele, Assistant Ranking Minority Member; Callan, Corry, Davis, Dye, Eslick, Gildon, Irwin, Jenkin, Leavitt, Lekanoff, Maycumber, Morgan, Riccelli, Santos, Sells, Stonier and Walsh.

**Staff:** Melissa Palmer (786-7388).

**Background:**

The Public Works Board.

The Public Works Board (Board) may make loans or grants from the Public Works Assistance Account (PWAA) to finance the acquisition, construction, repair, replacement, or improvement of the following local public works: bridges, streets, and roads; water systems;

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storm and sanitary sewage systems; and solid waste facilities, including recycling. For up to a maximum of 20 percent of the biennial PWAA capital budget appropriation, the Board may make loans or grants for preconstruction, emergency, and capital facilities planning. Up to 10 percent of the PWAA capital budget appropriation may be provided for grants. Local governments and special purpose districts, except port and school districts, are eligible to apply for loans from the PWAA. The Board may provide technical assistance. The Board may require a local government to provide a long-term financial plan for maintenance and loan repayments, and undergo value planning at the predesign stage. Existing debt or financial obligations may not be refinanced.

Public Works Board Membership.

The Board is staffed by the Department of Commerce and consists of 13 voting members appointed by the Governor: two elected officials and one public works manager representing cities; two elected officials and one public works manager representing counties; three members representing public utility and water-sewer districts; and four members representing the general public.

**Summary of Bill:**

The Public Works Board membership is increased from 13 to 14 members and the State Treasurer, or State Treasurer's designee, is added.

**Appropriation:** None.

**Fiscal Note:** Available.

**Effective Date:** The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of the session in which the bill is passed.

**Staff Summary of Public Testimony:**

(In support) This legislation will add the Office of State Treasurer's (OST) expertise to the Public Works Board (Board), which will benefit both the Board and communities throughout Washington. The State Treasurer (Treasurer) is supportive of this change; it is his request legislation. The Treasurer serves on many boards, including the Housing Finance Commission and the Economic and Revenue Forecast Council. The OST is in charge of managing public money. Adding the Treasurer to the Board could not be more fitting. The Treasurer cares about infrastructure and will add value to the Board.

(Opposed) None.

**Persons Testifying:** Catherine Mele Hetter, Office of the State Treasurer; and Scott Hutsell, Public Works Board.

**Persons Signed In To Testify But Not Testifying:** None.