



Item #09-8-10

Government Relations & Public Affairs Committee Information

July 30, 2009

H.R. 1525 (Matsui) – Flood Management

Issue: H.R. 1525 (Matsui) would adjust federal law to help the Sacramento region meet its flood protection goals.

Recommendation: None; this item is for information only.

Discussion: On July 29, the House of Representatives unanimously passed H.R. 1525, authored by Congresswoman Matsui, which would help Sacramento get closer to achieving 200-year flood protection in Natomas. The legislation amends the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 to:

- 1) make communities that reconstruct and improve flood protection systems (in addition to constructing them) eligible for premium flood insurance rates
- 2) allow entities that own, operate, maintain, or repair flood protection systems (instead of a federal agency) to determine whether a flood protection system is restorable.

This bill is consistent with SACOG's Flood Management advocacy principle, which directs staff to influence legislation or administrative rules addressing flood protection to ensure that public safety is improved and additional funding for local flood protection efforts is secured. SACOG works with appropriate flood protection agencies throughout the region on flood issues as they relate to regional transportation and land use planning.

Similar legislation has not yet been introduced in the Senate. The text of the legislation is attached. SACOG staff and federal advocate will continue to monitor the federal legislation and provide updates to this committee.

Approved by:

Mike McKeever
Executive Director

MM:RS:EJ:sb

Attachment

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111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1525

To amend the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 to require the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency to consider reconstruction and improvement of flood protection systems when establishing flood insurance rates.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 16, 2009

Ms. MATSUI introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on Financial Services

A BILL

To amend the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 to require the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency to consider reconstruction and improvement of flood protection systems when establishing flood insurance rates.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. CONSIDERATION OF RECONSTRUCTION AND**
2 **IMPROVEMENT OF FLOOD PROTECTION SYS-**
3 **TEMS IN DETERMINATION OF FLOOD INSUR-**
4 **ANCE RATES.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1307 of the National
6 Flood Insurance Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 4014) is amend-
7 ed—

8 (1) in subsection (e)—

9 (A) in the first sentence, by striking “con-
10 struction of a flood protection system” and in-
11 sserting “construction, reconstruction, or im-
12 provement of a flood protection system (without
13 respect to the level of Federal investment or
14 participation)”; and

15 (B) in the second sentence—

16 (i) by striking “construction of a flood
17 protection system” and inserting “con-
18 struction, reconstruction, or improvement
19 of a flood protection system”; and

20 (ii) by inserting “based on the present
21 value of the completed system” after “has
22 been expended”; and

23 (2) in subsection (f)—

24 (A) in the first sentence in the matter pre-
25 ceding paragraph (1), by inserting “(without re-

1 spect to the level of Federal investment or par-
2 ticipation)” after “no longer does”;

3 (B) in the third sentence in the matter
4 preceding paragraph (1), by inserting “, wheth-
5 er coastal or riverine,” after “special flood haz-
6 ard”; and

7 (C) in paragraph (1), by striking “a Fed-
8 eral agency in consultation with the local
9 project sponsor” and inserting “the entity or
10 entities that own, operate, maintain, or repair
11 such system”.

12 (b) REGULATIONS.—Not later than 30 days after the
13 date of the enactment of this Act, the Administrator of
14 the Federal Emergency Management Agency shall promul-
15 gate regulations to carry out the amendments made by
16 subsection (a).

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