

# SENATE BILL REPORT

## HB 1420

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As Reported By Senate Committee On:  
Agriculture, April 1, 2003

**Title:** An act relating to drainage facilities.

**Brief Description:** Allowing special districts to provide drainage ditches and tide gates.

**Sponsors:** Representatives Quall, Schoesler, Eickmeyer, Sump, Grant, Kristiansen, Hunt, Blake, McDermott, Hatfield, Sehlin, Bailey and Linville.

**Brief History:**

**Committee Activity:** Agriculture: 4/1/03 [DP].

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### SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

**Majority Report:** Do pass.

Signed by Senators Swecker, Chair; Brandland, Vice Chair; Jacobsen and Rasmussen.

**Staff:** Bob Lee (786-7404)

**Background:** The following group of special purpose districts are collectively referred to by statute as being "special districts:" diking districts; drainage districts; diking, drainage, and/or sewerage improvement districts; inter-county diking and drainage districts; diking, drainage, diking improvement and/or drainage improvement districts; and flood control districts.

Such a special district may investigate, plan, construct, acquire, repair, maintain, and operate improvements, works, projects, and facilities necessary to prevent inundation or flooding from rivers, streams, tidal waters or other waters; or necessary to control and treat storm water, surface water, and flood water.

**Summary of Bill:** The facilities that such a special district may investigate, plan, construct, acquire, repair, maintain, and operate expressly include drainage ditches, tide gates, and flood gates.

**Appropriation:** None.

**Fiscal Note:** Not requested.

**Effective Date:** Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.

**Testimony For:** This bill provides clarification that "other works" diking and drainage districts operate and maintain include tide gates, flood gates and drainage ditches.

**Testimony Against:** None.

**Testified:** PRO: Lyle Wesen; Curtis Johnson, Skagit County Farmland Legacy Pgm; John Roozen, Washington Bulb Co. Inc.; Mike Shelby, Western Washington Agricultural Assn.