

# House Bill 3427

Sponsored by Representative LEWIS; Representatives BARRETO, BENTZ, BOONE, BUEHLER, ESQUIVEL, EVANS, HACK, JOHNSON, LIVELY, MEEK, NOBLE, PARRISH, POST, VIAL, WHISNANT

## SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**.

Requires owner or operator of dam with high hazard rating to develop emergency action plan for dam. Requires determining frequency for conducting of emergency response exercises at dams with high hazard rating. Requires Water Resources Department to conduct periodic inspection of dams with high hazard rating.

## A BILL FOR AN ACT

1  
2 Relating to dams with high hazard ratings.

3 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

4 **SECTION 1. Section 2 of this 2017 Act is added to and made a part of ORS chapter 540.**

5 **SECTION 2. (1) As used in this section:**

6 (a) **"Emergency action plan" means a plan that assists a dam owner or operator and the**  
7 **local emergency manager to perform actions to ensure human safety in the event of a po-**  
8 **tential or actual failure of a dam or a sudden release of water.**

9 (b) **"High hazard rating" means that the Water Resources Department expects loss of**  
10 **human life to occur if a dam fails.**

11 (2) **The department shall require the owner or operator of a dam with a high hazard**  
12 **rating to develop an emergency action plan for the dam. The emergency action plan must**  
13 **include, but need not be limited to:**

14 (a) **Means for emergency condition detection;**

15 (b) **Means for emergency level determination;**

16 (c) **Identification of, and information necessary for, the notifications and communications**  
17 **to be made at each level of emergency condition;**

18 (d) **A description of actions expected to be undertaken to prevent dam failure or reduce**  
19 **the effects of dam failure;**

20 (e) **A map of the dam failure inundation zones for varying conditions, including but not**  
21 **limited to dry weather conditions and high flood conditions; and**

22 (f) **Procedures to be followed at termination of an emergency.**

23 (3) **An owner or operator of a dam with a high hazard rating shall file copies of the**  
24 **emergency action plan for the dam with the department, the Office of Emergency Manage-**  
25 **ment and the local emergency services agency for the county where the dam is located. The**  
26 **department, in consultation with the office and local emergency services agency, shall peri-**  
27 **odically review and require updates to the emergency action plan.**

28 (4) **The department, in consultation with the office and local emergency services agency,**  
29 **shall determine the frequency for the conducting of emergency response exercises at a dam**  
30 **with a high hazard rating.**

**NOTE:** Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter [*italic and bracketed*] is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1           **(5) The department shall inspect a dam with a high hazard rating annually, unless the**  
2 **department determines that a different inspection schedule is appropriate and is adequate**  
3 **to ensure the seismic safety of the dam.**

4           **SECTION 3. (1) As used in this section “emergency action plan” and “high hazard**  
5 **rating” have the meanings given those terms in section 2 of this 2017 Act.**

6           **(2) A dam constructed prior to the effective date of this 2017 Act that has a high hazard**  
7 **rating shall have an emergency action plan filed as required in section 2 of this 2017 Act no**  
8 **later than one year after the effective date of this 2017 Act.**

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