SENATE BILL No. 669

December 17, 1991, Introduced by Senator DILLINGHAM and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Forestry, and Wildlife.

A bill to amend the title and sections 73, 75, 128, 151, 195, 431, 470, 494, 522, 544, and 564 of Act No. 40 of the Public Acts of 1956, entitled as amended

being sections 280.73, 280.75, 280.128, 280.151, 280.195, 280.431, 280.470, 280.494, 280.522, 280.544, and 280.564 of the Michigan Compiled Laws; and to repeal certain parts of the act.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

- Section 1. The title and sections 73, 75, 128, 151, 195,
- 2 431, 470, 494, 522, 544, and 564 of Act No. 40 of the Public Acts
- 3 of 1956, being sections 280.73, 280.75, 280.128, 280.151,

"The drain code of 1956,"

- 4 280.195, 280.431, 280.470, 280.494, 280.522, 280.544, and 280.564
- 5 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, are amended to read as follows:

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1 TITLE

An act to codify the laws relating to -the laying out of 2 3 drainage districts, the consolidation of drainage districts, the 4 construction and maintenance of drains, sewers, pumping equip-5 ment, bridges, culverts, fords, and the structures and mechanical 6 devices to -properly purify the flow of drains; TO PROVIDE FOR 7 THE ACQUISITION OF PROPERTY BY CONDEMNATION AND OTHER MEANS; to 8 provide for flood control projects; to provide for water manage-9 ment, water management districts - and subdistricts, and -for-10 flood control and drainage projects within drainage districts; to 11 provide for the assessment and collection of taxes; to provide 12 for the investment of funds; to provide for the deposit of funds 13 for future maintenance of drains; to authorize public corpora-14 tions to impose taxes for the payment of assessments in anticipa-15 tion of which bonds are issued; to provide for the issuance of 16 bonds by drainage districts and for the pledge of the full faith 17 and credit of counties for payment of the bonds; to authorize 18 counties to impose taxes when necessary to pay principal and 19 interest on bonds for which full faith and credit is pledged; to 20 validate certain acts and bonds; and to prescribe penalties. 21 Sec. 73. The commissioner shall secure from a professional 22 engineer - plans, specifications, and an estimate of cost of 23 the proposed drain and descriptions of the -lands or rights of 24 way PROPERTY needed for the proposed drain. In approving the 25 route of the drain as furnished by the engineers, the commis-26 sioner -shall IS not -be- limited to -that THE ROUTE described 27 in the petition or in the first order of determination, if the

- 1 new route is more efficient and serviceable. -The commissioner
- 2 shall endeavor to secure from the owners of each parcel or tract
- 3 of land to be traversed or damaged by the proposed drain or
- 4 drains an easement or release of right of way and all damages on
- 5 account thereof.
- 6 Sec. 75. -If all persons whose lands would be traversed or
- 7 damaged by the proposed drain or drains shall not have executed a
- 8 release of the right of way, and all damages on account thereof,
- 9 within 60 days after the entry of the first order of determina-
- 10 tion, the commissioner shall, as soon as practicable, make appli-
- 11 cation to the probate court of the county in which such lands are
- 12 situated, for the appointment of 3 special commissioners, who
- 13 shall be disinterested resident freeholders of the county, but
- 14 not of the township or townships affected by such drain, to
- 15 determine the necessity for the taking of private property for
- 16 the use and benefit of the public, and the just compensation to
- 17 be made therefor. Such application shall be in writing, and
- 18 shall set forth:
- 19 First, The fact that a petition for a drain was made and
- 20 when, filing with said court a certified copy of such petition,
- 21 also giving the route, survey and specifications of said-drain as
- 22 set forth in the first order of determination;
- 23 Second, That an order determining the necessity for such
- 24 drain was made by the commissioner or drainage board, giving the
- 25 time when such order was made, in accordance with such route,
- 26 survey and specification, as above set forth;

- Third, (1) The several descriptions or tracts of land with 1 2 the names of the owner or owners of every such tract who have 3 refused or neglected to execute a release of right of way and 4 damages in any way arising or incident to the opening or main-5 taining the said proposed drain (2) the several descriptions or 6 tracts of land owned by any minor, incompetent person, unknown 7 persons or nonresidents of the township or townships, the execu-8 tion of a release of right of way and damages for which have been 9 neglected or refused; (3) it shall not be necessary to set forth 10 in said application to the probate court the names of the several 11 owners nor the description of the several tracts or parcels of 12 land liable to an assessment for benefits, in case the drain 13 applied for should be located and established, except those who 14 have not released the right of way and through whose lands the 15 drain passes; nor shall the same be included in the citation 16 issued from the probate court. A DRAIN COMMISSIONER MAY ACQUIRE 17 PROPERTY FOR A COUNTY DRAINAGE DISTRICT FOR DRAINAGE PURPOSES BY 18 EXERCISE OF THE POWER OF EMINENT DOMAIN PURSUANT TO THE UNIFORM 19 CONDEMNATION PROCEDURES ACT, ACT NO. 87 OF THE PUBLIC ACTS OF 20 1980, BEING SECTIONS 213.51 TO 213.77 OF THE MICHIGAN COMPILED 21 LAWS. 22 Sec. 128. In case all the persons whose lands are to be
- Sec. 128. In case all the persons whose lands are to be
 traversed or damaged by such drain or drains, as proposed in this
 that chapter, shall not within 60 days after the issue of the first
 order of determination have voluntarily released the right of way
 therefor, and all damages on account thereof, the drainage board
 shall apply to the judge of probate of the county in which such

- 1 lands are situated for the appointment of 3 special
- 2 commissioners. When such application shall be made and when all
- 3 papers shall have been found to be in conformity with the provi-
- 4 sions of this act, the court to whom such application has been
- 5 made shall, within 60 days from the filing of said application,
- 6 appoint-such special commissioners and shall deliver to each
- 7 drain commissioner a certified copy of the order of the appoint-
- 8 ment of such special commissioners. Such special commissioners
- 9 shall be resident freeholders of the county and not residents of
- 10 the township or townships to be affected by the proposed drain in
- 11 which they are appointed. All proceedings had in the appointment
- 12 of special commissioners, the issuance of service of citations,
- 13 hearings by the probate court and by the special commissioners
- 14 and the return of special commissioners under the provisions of
- 15 this chapter shall be similar to those provided in chapter 4,
- 16 being sections 71 to 84. AFTER ENTRY OF THE FIRST ORDER OF
- 17 DETERMINATION, THE DRAINAGE BOARD MAY ACQUIRE PROPERTY FOR THE
- 18 INTERCOUNTY DRAINAGE DISTRICT FOR DRAINAGE PURPOSES BY EXERCISE
- 19 OF THE POWER OF EMINENT DOMAIN PURSUANT TO THE UNIFORM CONDEMNA-
- 20 TION PROCEDURES ACT, ACT NO. 87 OF THE PUBLIC ACTS OF 1980, BEING
- 21 SECTIONS 213.51 TO 213.77 OF THE MICHIGAN COMPILED LAWS.
- 22 Sec. 151. Upon the -release of the right of way and dam-
- 23 ages, or upon the determination and return of the special
- 24 commissioners VESTING IN THE DRAINAGE DISTRICT OF PROPERTY NEC-
- 25 ESSARY FOR THE DRAIN, the DRAIN commissioner shall make -his- THE
- 26 final order of determination establishing the drain. -, which-
- 27 THE drain shall be divided into convenient sections for the

- 1 letting of contracts. -: -Provided, That HOWEVER, the DRAIN
- 2 commissioner may let the drain in sections or as a whole. -Said-
- 3 THE order of determination shall be filed with the -county- drain
- 4 commissioner -within- NOT MORE THAN 5 days after -such- THE order
- 5 is made. -He shall, before- BEFORE the day of -letting and-
- 6 review, THE DRAIN COMMISSIONER SHALL fix the number of install-
- 7 ments for the collection of drainage taxes and apportion the -per
- 8 cent PERCENT of the cost of construction of -such THE drain
- 9 which any THAT EACH township, city, or village traversed or
- 10 benefited -thereby shall be BY THE DRAIN IS liable to pay by
- 11 reason of the benefit to the public health, convenience, or wel-
- 12 fare, or as the means of improving -any A highway under the con-
- 13 trol of -such- THE township, city, or village. -He- THE DRAIN
- 14 COMMISSIONER shall apportion the per cent PERCENT of the cost
- 15 of construction of -such- THE drain -which any- THAT A highway
- 16 then under the control of the BOARD OF county -or-district road
- 17 commissioners -, shall be IS liable to pay by reason of benefits
- 18 therefor FOR THE HIGHWAY, and as the means of improving -such-
- 19 THE highway. -He- THE DRAIN COMMISSIONER shall -also apportion
- 20 the -per cent PERCENT of the cost of construction of -such THE
- 21 drain -which THAT any state trunk line highway under the
- 22 control of the state -highway commissioner, shall-be-
- 23 TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION IS liable to pay by reason of benefits
- 24 therefor FOR THE HIGHWAY and as the means of improving -said-
- 25 THE highway. -He- THE DRAIN COMMISSIONER shall also apportion
- 26 the per cent PERCENT of benefits to accrue to any piece or A
- 27 parcel of land by reason of the construction of -such- THE drain

- 1 over and above the -per-cent PERCENT apportioned to -any A
- 2 township, city, or village at large or to -any- A highway. -as
- 3 above provided. Such per cent THE PERCENT so apportioned when
- 4 finally approved shall be assessed against -such THE townships,
- 5 cities, and villages and against the county at large by reason of
- 6 the improvement of the highways within the drainage district
- 7 UNDER THE CONTROL OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY ROAD COMMISSIONERS, and
- 8 against the state by reason of the improvement of the state trunk
- 9 line highways within -such THE drainage district UNDER THE CON-
- 10 TROL OF THE STATE TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION, and against -all-
- 11 parcels of land -therein- IN THE DRAINAGE DISTRICT according to
- 12 -such THE apportionment of benefits. -as herein provided. The
- 13 apportionment of benefits -so made shall be IS subject to review
- 14 and correction and may be appealed from as PROVIDED in this act.
- 15 -provided. The COUNTY board of -supervisors COMMISSIONERS at
- 16 its -October ANNUAL meeting each year shall make provision by
- 17 proper assessment of the amounts apportioned against any highway
- 18 under the control of the BOARD OF county ROAD COMMISSIONERS. and
- 19 district highway commissioners.
- 20 Sec. 195. In case it shall be necessary to secure further
- 21 right of way and allow damages therefor, for any IF IT IS NECES-
- 22 SARY TO ACQUIRE ADDITIONAL PROPERTY FOR work contemplated by this
- 23 chapter, the commissioner -shall take all the necessary steps to
- 24 obtain such right of way as are prescribed by chapter 4, being
- 25 sections 71 to 84, inclusive, of this act MAY ACQUIRE THE PROP-
- 26 ERTY FOR THE DRAINAGE DISTRICT BY EXERCISE OF THE POWER OF
- 27 EMINENT DOMAIN PURSUANT TO THE UNIFORM CONDEMNATION PROCEDURES

- 1 ACT, ACT NO. 87 OF THE PUBLIC ACTS OF 1980, BEING SECTIONS 213.51
- 2 TO 213.77 OF THE MICHIGAN COMPILED LAWS.
- 3 Sec. 431. (1) The drain commissioner or drainage board may
- 4 -contract or make agreements MAKE AN AGREEMENT with the federal
- 5 government -, including any agency thereof, whereby UNDER WHICH
- 6 the federal government will pay -the whole ALL or -any part of
- 7 the cost of the project or will perform -the whole- ALL or -any-
- 8 part of the work connected therewith, which contract or WITH
- 9 THE PROJECT. THE agreement may include any specific terms
- 10 required by -act of congress or federal -regulation LAW, not in
- 11 conflict with state law, as a condition for participation on the
- 12 part of the federal government. The drain commissioner or drain-
- 13 age board may -contract or make agreements with any MAKE AN
- 14 AGREEMENT WITH A private corporation or with -any- A public cor-
- 15 poration, -including any agency thereof, in respect to -any A
- 16 matter connected with the construction, operation, or maintenance
- 17 of -any- A flood control -or- PROJECT, drainage project, or
- 18 -combination thereof FLOOD CONTROL AND DRAINAGE PROJECT. The
- 19 -contract or agreement may provide that any payments made or
- 20 work done by the public corporation shall relieve it in whole or
- 21 -in part from assessment for the cost of the project. -No-
- 22 EXCEPT FOR construction work TO BE PERFORMED SOLELY BY THE FED-
- 23 ERAL GOVERNMENT OR A PUBLIC CORPORATION AT ITS EXPENSE, CONSTRUC-
- 24 TION WORK shall NOT be undertaken by the drain commissioner or
- 25 drainage board until bids have been advertised for and received
- 26 for the performance of -such THE work. -, but this provision

- 1 shall not apply to work to be performed solely by the federal
- 2 government or a public corporation at its expense.
- 3 (2) The drain commissioner or drainage board may -contract
- 4 or make agreements with private and public corporations and with
- 5 the federal government -including any agency thereof for the
- 6 purpose of expanding any flood control -or- PROJECT, drainage
- 7 project, or -combination-thereof- FLOOD CONTROL AND DRAINAGE
- 8 PROJECT to include the conservation and utilization of soil and
- 9 water for recreation and other beneficial purposes. The con-
- 10 tracts or agreements shall provide for an equitable sharing of
- 11 the costs of the expanded -flood control or drainage project.
- 12 -or combination thereof and the THE cost borne by a drainage
- 13 district shall not -be in excess of EXCEED the amount -which
- 14 THAT can be attributed solely to drainage and flood control.
- 15 (3) The drain commissioner or drainage board may acquire
- 16 by gift or purchase the PROPERTY necessary -lands, and rights of
- 17 way for the purposes of FOR any expanded flood control -or-
- 18 PROJECT, drainage project, or FLOOD CONTROL AND DRAINAGE PROJECT.
- 19 -combination thereof .- The drain commissioner or drainage board
- 20 may acquire by condemnation proceedings similar to those pro-
- 21 vided in chapter 4 and chapter 6 of this act, the necessary lands
- 22 and rights of way for any expanded flood control or drainage
- 23 project or combination thereof which shall PROPERTY FOR A
- 24 PROJECT TO be undertaken jointly with a public corporation or the
- 25 federal government BY EXERCISE OF THE POWER OF EMINENT DOMAIN
- 26 PURSUANT TO THE UNIFORM CONDEMNATION PROCEDURES ACT, ACT NO. 87
- 27 OF THE PUBLIC ACTS OF 1980, BEING SECTIONS 213.51 TO 213.77 OF

- 1 THE MICHIGAN COMPILED LAWS. The drain commissioner or drainage
- 2 board may pay for the costs of -lands taken by condemnation for
- 3 an expanded flood control or drainage project or combination
- 4 thereof, undertaken jointly with a public corporation or the fed-
- 5 eral government THE PROPERTY, but the public corporation or fed-
- 6 eral government shall promptly reimburse the drainage district
- 7 for all costs of acquisition in excess of those costs directly
- 8 attributable to drainage and flood control.
- 9 (4) The term AS USED IN THIS SECTION, "public corporation"
- 10 includes -the- THIS state, counties, cities, villages, townships,
- 11 metropolitan districts, and authorities created by or pursuant to
- 12 state statutes.
- 13 Sec. 470. The AFTER ISSUING THE FINAL ORDER OF APPORTION-
- 14 MENT, THE drainage board shall -then-proceed to secure ACQUIRE
- 15 the PROPERTY necessary -lands or rights of way for the proposed
- 16 drain. If the same cannot be secured by negotiation, then the
- 17 drainage board may proceed under the provisions of Act No. 149
- 18 of the Public Acts of 1911, as amended, being sections 213.21 to
- 19 213.41 of the Compiled Laws of 1948, or under the applicable pro-
- 20 visions of sections 75 to 84 of this act, and shall be deemed to
- 21 be a "state agency" as that term is used in said act, or if the
- 22 project is one in which- THE DRAINAGE BOARD MAY ACQUIRE THE PROP-
- 23 ERTY BY EXERCISE OF THE POWER OF EMINENT DOMAIN PURSUANT TO THE
- 24 UNIFORM CONDEMNATION PROCEDURES ACT, ACT NO. 87 OF THE PUBLIC
- 25 ACTS OF 1980, BEING SECTIONS 213.51 TO 213.77 OF THE MICHIGAN
- 26 COMPILED LAWS. IF the federal government is participating IN THE
- 27 PROJECT in any manner, -then such lands or rights of way THE

- 1 PROPERTY may INSTEAD be acquired through proceedings brought by
- 2 the federal government under -any-appropriate A federal act.
- 3 -In the event lands or rights of way shall be acquired through
- 4 proceedings under a federal act, then the THE amount of the
- 5 awards in -such A CONDEMNATION proceeding BY THE FEDERAL
- 6 GOVERNMENT shall be -deemed CONSIDERED to be a part of the cost
- 7 of the drain to the same extent as if the condemnation
- 8 proceedings PROCEEDING had been taken under the laws of this
- 9 state ACT NO. 87 OF THE PUBLIC ACTS OF 1980.
- 10 Sec. 494. The recording of the description UNDER
- 11 SECTION 493 does not appropriate, terminate, or lessen -any pri-
- 12 vate PROPERTY rights -in property, real or personal, except such
- 13 as shall be UNLESS THE PROPERTY RIGHTS ARE voluntarily released
- 14 by written agreement or conveyance or -as-shall be condemned as
- 15 provided in this chapter. -, or pursuant to applicable law. The
- 16 recording of the description constitutes a regulation and limita-
- 17 tion, for -reasons of THE public health, of the use of the
- 18 public and private property -therein described IN THE PETITION
- 19 to remove or lessen the danger of flooding, pollution,
- 20 -desecration DEGRADATION, or obstruction of the river, creek, or
- 21 watercourse, or part thereof, involved.
- 22 Sec. 522. -The AFTER ISSUING THE FINAL ORDER OF APPORTION-
- 23 MENT, THE drainage board shall -then proceed to secure ACQUIRE
- 24 the PROPERTY necessary -lands-or rights-of way for the proposed
- 25 drain. -If the same cannot be secured by negotiation, then the
- 26 drainage board may proceed under the provisions of Act No. 149
- 27 of the Public Acts of 1911, as amended, being sections 213.21 to

- 1 213.41 of the Compiled Laws of 1948, or under the applicable
- 2 provisions of sections 75 to 84 of this act, and shall be deemed
- 3 to be a "state agency" as that term is used in said act, or if
- 4 the project is one in which THE DRAINAGE BOARD MAY ACQUIRE THE
- 5 PROPERTY BY EXERCISE OF THE POWER OF EMINENT DOMAIN PURSUANT TO
- 6 THE UNIFORM CONDEMNATION PROCEDURES ACT, ACT NO. 87 OF THE PUBLIC
- 7 ACTS OF 1980, BEING SECTIONS 213.51 TO 213.77 OF THE MICHIGAN
- 8 COMPILED LAWS. IF the federal government is participating IN THE
- 9 PROJECT in any manner, -then such lands or rights of way THE
- 10 PROPERTY may INSTEAD be acquired through proceedings brought by
- 11 the federal government under -any appropriate- A federal act.
- 12 No such condemnation proceedings involving highways shall be
- 13 effective to take title thereto PROPERTY PERTAINING TO A HIGHWAY
- 14 SHALL NOT BE TAKEN without a prior agreement with the highway
- 15 agency involved. In the event that lands or rights of way shall
- 16 be acquired through proceedings under a federal act, then the
- 17 THE amount of the awards in -such proceedings A CONDEMNATION
- 18 PROCEEDING BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT shall be -deemed- CONSIDERED
- 19 to be a part of the cost of the drain to the same extent as if
- 20 the condemnation -proceedings PROCEEDING had been taken under
- 21 -the laws of this state ACT NO. 87 OF THE PUBLIC ACTS OF 1980.
- 22 Sec. 544. The recording of the description does not appro-
- 23 priate, terminate, or lessen -any private PROPERTY rights -in
- 24 property, real or personal, except such as shall be UNLESS THE
- 25 PROPERTY RIGHTS ARE voluntarily released by written agreement or
- 26 conveyance or -as shall be condemned as provided in this
- 27 chapter. -, or pursuant to applicable law. The recording of the

- 1 description constitutes a regulation and limitation, for -reasons
- 2 of THE public health, of the use of the public and private prop-
- 3 erty therein described IN THE PETITION to remove or lessen the
- 4 danger of flooding, pollution, -desecration DEGRADATION, or
- 5 obstruction of the river, creek, or watercourse, or parts there-
- 6 of, involved.
- 7 Sec. 564. The— AFTER THE WATER MANAGEMENT COMMISSION
- 8 ISSUES THE FINAL ORDER OF APPORTIONMENT, THE WATER MANAGEMENT
- 9 board shall -then proceed-to-secure- ACQUIRE the PROPERTY neces-
- 10 sary -lands and/or rights of way for the proposed project. -If
- 11 the same cannot be secured by negotiation, then the board may
- 12 proceed under the provisions of Act No. -149 of the Public Acts
- 13 of 1911, as amended, being sections 213.21 to 213.41, inclusive,
- 14 of the Compiled Laws of 1948, and shall be deemed to be a "state
- 15 agency" as that term is used in said act, or if the project is
- 16 one in which THE BOARD MAY ACQUIRE THE PROPERTY BY EXERCISE OF
- 17 THE POWER OF EMINENT DOMAIN PURSUANT TO THE UNIFORM CONDEMNATION
- 18 PROCEDURES ACT, ACT NO. 87 OF THE PUBLIC ACTS OF 1980, BEING SEC-
- 19 TIONS 213.51 TO 213.77 OF THE MICHIGAN COMPILED LAWS. IF the
- 20 federal government is participating IN THE PROJECT in any manner,
- 21 -then such lands and/or rights of way THE PROPERTY may INSTEAD
- 22 be acquired through proceedings brought by the federal government
- 23 under any appropriate A federal act. -: Provided, That no
- 24 condemnation A proceeding under this act TO CONDEMN PROPERTY
- 25 AFFECTING A HIGHWAY, ROAD, OR STREET shall NOT be instituted
- 26 -until BEFORE the board -has first given GIVES written notice
- 27 by registered mail to the highway agencies having jurisdiction

- 1 over -any THE highway, road, or street. -affected by the lands
- 2 or rights of way to be acquired by such condemnation proceeding.
- 3 In event that lands and/or rights of way shall be acquired
- 4 through proceedings under a federal act, then the THE amount of
- 5 the awards in -such A CONDEMNATION proceeding BY THE FEDERAL
- 6 GOVERNMENT shall be -deemed- CONSIDERED to be a part of the cost
- 7 of the project to the same extent as if the condemnation proceed-
- 8 ings had been taken under the laws of this state ACT NO. 87 OF
- 9 THE PUBLIC ACTS OF 1980.
- 10 Section 2. Sections 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 86,
- 11 87, 88, 127, and 129 of Act No. 40 of the Public Acts of 1956,
- 12 being sections 280.76, 280.77, 280.78, 280.79, 280.80, 280.81,
- 13 280.82, 280.83, 280.84, 280.86, 280.87, 280.88, 280.127, and
- 14 280.129 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, are repealed.