

## **EGLE Backs Schuette Dam Safety Bill After Floods | 4/27/2026**

Recent flooding in northern Michigan has pointed to metaphorical and literal cracks in the dams that are in need of repair or upgrade, prompting introduction of a bill in the state House being backed by the Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE).

Rep. [Bill G. SCHUETTE \(R-Midland\)](#) introduced [HB 5485](#) that would expand funding and oversight of Michigan's more than 2,500 dams. It would require dam owners to register and create comprehensive safety, inspection and management plans; increase inspection frequency to identify problems; raise the design and safety standards of dams and create new funding and grant programs for high-risk dams.

Michigan has put \$44.5 million into the Dam Risk Reduction Program after the Edenville Dam breached and flooded Midland, but EGLE has estimated that \$1 billion more is needed to upgrade dams across the state.

EGLE Director [Phil ROOS](#) said the state has made an investment to repair and remove dams where needed, but that funding needed a boost.

"Proposed legislation builds on that progress by modernizing oversight, increasing accountability to ensure we can better safeguard people, infrastructure and our natural resources," Roos said.