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OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

Office of Research
and Drafting

Legislative Budget
Office

H.B. 683
135th General Assembly

Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

[Click here for H.B. 683's Bill Analysis](#)

Version: As Introduced

Primary Sponsors: Reps. Edwards and Jones

Local Impact Statement Procedure Required: No

Gavin Enseleit, LSC Fellow

Highlights

- The bill appropriates \$10.0 million in FY 2025 under GRF appropriation line item (ALI) 700509, Soil and Water District Support, for the Department of Agriculture to support the state's 88 soil and water conservation districts. This is in addition to \$12.5 million appropriated to the ALI in FY 2025 under H.B. 33, the main operating budget act of the FY 2024-FY 2025 biennium.

Detailed Analysis

The bill provides supplemental GRF funding of \$10.0 million in FY 2025 for the Department of Agriculture (AGR) to support the state's 88 soil and water conservation districts (SWCDs). AGR uses GRF ALI 700509, Soil and Water District Support, to provide SWCDs with state matching funds for locally generated financial support. The state matching funds are distributed by AGR's Division of Soil and Water Conservation according to a formula approved by the Ohio Soil and Water Conservation Commission. The state funding may be used for SWCD operations, staffing, conservation education programs, and for technical assistance to implement the Agriculture Pollution Abatement Program, and the state's H2Ohio water quality improvement program, among other functions. AGR spent \$9.1 million for these purposes under this GRF ALI in FY 2024. For FY 2025, the appropriation is \$12.5 million. In addition to this GRF funding, H.B. 33 appropriated \$10.5 million in FY 2025 for SWCD support under Fund 5BV0 ALI 700661, Soil and Water Districts, also under the AGR budget. That funding comes from solid waste and construction and demolition disposal fees received by AGR.