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OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

Office of Research
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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 Passed by the House

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.
- The bill appropriates \$500,000 in FY 2025 under OSU Extension Fund (Fund 5YB0) ALI 700676, Farm Financial Management Institute. The funding is to be used for the Institute's work on the impacts of the 2024 drought and implementation of an upcoming federal farm bill. The appropriation is supported by a cash transfer from the Controlling Board Emergency Purposes/Contingencies Fund (Fund 5KM0).

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.

The bill also provides supplemental funding of \$500,000 in FY 2025 under OSU Extension Fund (Fund 5YB0) ALI 700676, Farm Financial Management Institute. This funding is to be granted to the Institute to support its work dealing with the impacts of the 2024 drought and implementation of an upcoming federal farm bill. The Institute promotes the efforts of the Ohio State University's (OSU) College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences in the areas of farm financial management and agricultural policy. The appropriation is supported by a cash transfer from the Controlling Board Emergency Purposes/Contingencies Fund (Fund 5KM0).