



Ohio Senate Bill 155

(As Passed by the Senate)

Soil+Water Conservation Funds

Sponsored by Senator John Carey and Senator Dale Miller



Support

Summary

- Requires that the costs of all audits of state agencies be charged to the state agency being audited.
- Reallocates the proceeds of the existing fees on the sale of new tires by providing that 50% of the proceeds must be credited to the Soil and Water Conservation District Assistance Fund and 50% of the proceeds, rather than 100% as in current law, must be credited to the Scrap Tire Management Fund.
- Increases, from \$30,000 to \$40,000, the maximum amount of the annual soil and water conservation district subsidy.

OEC Perspective

Soil. There are few more precious—and vulnerable—natural resources.

Some researchers estimate that the U.S. is losing soil 10 times faster than the natural replenishment rate. Just one rainstorm can wash away 1 mm (.04 inches) of dirt. If left to natural processes, it can take years, even decades, to replace that loss. Erosion promotes critical losses of water, nutrients, soil organic matter and soil biota; reduces soil productivity; and contaminates water with fertilizers and pesticides. The ODNR is a recognized leader in soil and water conservation. It supports efforts by the 88-county soil and water conservation districts to improve water quality and the use of agricultural resources.

Senate Bill 155 provides critical stop-gap funding to maintain technical assistance and to provide better matching funds for local soil and water conservation efforts, fee increase.

The OEC strongly supports this bill.

Bill Ratings



This legislation will help resolve a serious problem that threatens Ohio's environment, and/or demonstrates significant leadership for Ohio's future.



This legislation will benefit Ohio's environment, or shows foresight in setting future environmental policy.



This legislation will somewhat - or on balance - benefit Ohio's environment.



This legislation will cause substantial harm to Ohio's environment, and demonstrates serious disregard for Ohio's future.



This legislation will harm Ohio's environment, or sets the state on the wrong path for future environmental policy.



This legislation will somewhat - or on balance - harm Ohio's environment.

