



# Ohio Senate Bill 85

As Reported by Senate State & Local Government Committee

## Water Storage Tanks

Sponsored by Senator Jimmy Stewart



# Support

### Summary

- Authorizes local and regional governments to enter into service contracts for the engineering, repair, sustainability, water quality management, and maintenance of water storage tanks and appurtenant facilities.



Water storage tanks, like this one in the Pike County village of Beaver, are a common sight in villages and cities alike throughout Ohio.

### OEC Perspective

What's in the water...in the town water tank?

State law calls for local governments to clean and maintain the inside of water storage towers at least once every four years. In reality, many storage towers go without cleaning or other important maintenance work for years longer—sometimes up to a decade.

This increases the risk that this source of drinking water may be contaminated by contact with dirt, rust, or even vermin. This delay often is caused by expensive up-front costs and legal ambiguity over the authority of local governments to enter into private contracts to service drinking water storage tanks. Senate Bill 85 clears up this ambiguity.

This legislation offers a sensible solution to a vital though often hidden challenge: timely servicing of small town water supply tanks.

**The Ohio Environmental Council supports this bill.**

### Bill Ratings



This legislation will help resolve a serious problem that threatens Ohio's environment, and 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.

