

Green Paper



Amended House Bill 497 (As Passed by the Ohio House) Capital Budget Bill Sponsored by Representative Ron Amstutz

Bill Summary

Amended House Bill 497 (As Passed by the House) authorizes the following capital project funding:

- \$100M for the Clean Ohio Fund: \$75M for conservation of open spaces, sensitive ecological areas, and stream corridors; \$12.5M for farmland preservation; and \$12.5M for construction of multi-purpose recreational trails.
- \$236.4M for the ODNR for renovation and maintenance of state and local park facilities.
- \$10M for the Healthy Lake Erie Initiative to divert the disposal of contaminated sediments dredged from navigational harbors to the open-waters of Lake Erie.

A TRIFECTA for natural resource conservation. That fairly sums up this Capital Budget Bill.

OEC's Perspective SUPPORT



WIN - A maxed-out renewal of bonding for the Clean Ohio Fund will build on Clean Ohio's proven 3:1 return on investment which has leveraged additional investments to create a total economic impact of \$2.6B in public and private investments for Mother Nature and economic revitalization.

PLACE - A long-overdue investment in Ohio's state and local park facilities to address an enormous backlog of well documented, needed improvements to campgrounds, cabins, lodges and other recreational facilities.

SHOW - Bulkied up continuation of an emerging fund that aims to find innovative alternatives to keep harbors clean and contaminated sediments out of the open waters of Lake Erie.

Recommendation

The OEC wholeheartedly supports the environmental conservation funding in the Capital Bill and eagerly recommends its approval.

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 cause substantial harm to Ohio's environment and demonstrates serious disregard for Ohio's future.



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



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 - benefit Ohio's environment.



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