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OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

Office of Research
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Office

S.B. 50
133rd General Assembly

Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

Revised

[Click here for S.B. 50's Bill Analysis](#)

Version: As Introduced

Primary Sponsor: Sen. Eklund

Local Impact Statement Procedure Required: Yes

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Highlights

- The bill increases one of the four fees that the state assesses on the transfer or disposal of solid waste from 25 cents to 50 cents per ton. The revenue from this fee is deposited into the Soil and Water Conservation District Assistance Fund (Fund 5BV0) used by the Department of Agriculture.
- The bill appropriates \$3.6 million in both FY 2020 and FY 2021 under Fund 5BV0 line item 700661, Soil and Water Districts, to provide direct assistance to Ohio's 88 county soil and water conservation districts. This would be in addition to the amounts appropriated for this purpose under the main operating budget act for the FY 2020-FY 2021 biennium.
- The bill will increase costs for political subdivisions that provide waste collection. Political subdivisions could absorb this additional cost, offset the additional cost by raising waste collection rates charged to customers, or undertake steps to reduce the amount of solid waste to be transferred or disposed of.

Detailed Analysis

The bill increases, from 25¢ per ton to 50¢ per ton, one of the state fees that are levied on the transfer or disposal of solid wastes in Ohio. The revenue generated by this fee is deposited into the Soil and Water Conservation District Assistance Fund (Fund 5BV0). This money is used by the Department of Agriculture to provide direct assistance to Ohio's 88 county soil and water conservation districts (SWCDs) for the planning, design, and construction of conservation projects to reduce soil erosion and protect local water resources. In FY 2018, receipts from this fee totaled nearly \$3.6 million. Allowing for the additional revenue that the solid waste fee increase would bring in, the bill appropriates a further \$3.6 million in both

FY 2020 and FY 2021 under Fund 5BV0 line item 700661, Soil and Water Districts, to provide SWCDs more state assistance for local soil and water conservation activities. This is on top of the amounts appropriated for this purpose under H.B. 166, the main operating budget act for the FY 2020-FY 2021 biennium, under current consideration. Recommended appropriations in H.B. 166 under line item 700661, Soil and Water Districts, are \$8.0 million in both FY 2020 and FY 2021.

Impact of solid waste fee increase on local waste collection services

Raising the fee on the transfer or disposal of solid waste will increase costs for local political subdivisions that provide waste collection services. For example, the city of Columbus collects about 300,000 tons of household waste a year. It does not charge residents for waste collection. Consequently, the 25¢ increase in the fee will increase costs for the city by \$75,000 annually (300,000 tons x 25¢). Other smaller political subdivisions, such as the city of Piqua and city of Centerville, indicated the bill will increase waste collection costs by \$1,000 to \$4,000. To offset the impact of the fee increase, these political subdivisions could raise waste collection fees paid by their customers. Alternatively, political subdivisions could encourage residents to reduce household waste or implement recycling programs in order to reduce the volume of solid waste collected.

State assistance for SWCDs – local matching

Under the current funding arrangement, SWCDs are required to match state assistance pursuant to a formula adopted by the Ohio Soil and Water Conservation Commission. Under the current formula, the state provides a base of \$15,000 to each SWCD regardless of the total local match revenue. The first \$20,000 of local match revenue is matched by the state at 200% in FY 2019. All local matching amounts above \$20,000 and below \$500,000 is matched at a uniform match rate that is calculated on the remaining available state match funds. If an SWCD receives over \$500,000 in local funds, the state will match 60% of the amount that would otherwise have gone to that district under the match percentage determined by the formula. In FY 2018, state matching funds ranged from \$15,000 to \$562,000 based on local matching funds that ranged from \$0 to nearly \$1.3 million.