



Ohio Legislative Service Commission

Bill Analysis

Wendy H. Gridley

Am. H.B. 361

131st General Assembly
(As Passed by the House)

Reps. Brenner, Arndt, Becker, Blessing, Dever, Hambley, K. Smith, Rogers, Ruhl, Amstutz, Anielski, Barnes, Bishoff, Boose, Boyd, Brown, Buchy, Cera, Conditt, Craig, Dovilla, Driehaus, Fedor, Grossman, T. Johnson, Lepore-Hagan, M. O'Brien, S. O'Brien, Patterson, Ryan, Sheehy, Slaby, Sweeney, Thompson

BILL SUMMARY

- Authorizes boards of township trustees and boards of park commissioners of township park districts to expend general fund money and other specified property tax revenue for the public purpose of presenting community events open to the public in their parks and at other recreational facilities.

CONTENT AND OPERATION

Township funds used for community events

The bill authorizes boards of township trustees and boards of park commissioners of township park districts to expend general fund money, in the case of townships, and money from the treasury of the township park district, in the case of park commissioners, as well as revenue derived from property taxes levied for park and recreational purposes for the public purpose¹ of presenting community events that are open to the public in their parks and at other recreational facilities. Under continuing law, boards of township trustees and boards of park commissioners may establish public parks.² And, a body or board vested with authority by the board of township trustees may maintain parks, playgrounds, playfields, gymnasiums, public baths, swimming pools, or indoor recreation centers.³ Although the bill authorizes the

¹ The expenditure of public funds must be for a public purpose. See *State ex rel. McClure v. Hagerman*, 155 Ohio St. 320 (1951); 2015 Op. Att'y Gen. No. 2015-007.

² R.C. 505.261 and 511.23.

³ R.C. 755.13.

expenditure of funds from revenues derived from property taxes levied for parks and recreational purposes to present "community events" open to the public at township parks and recreational facilities, it does not define "community events."⁴ The bill specifies that this expenditure of funds is for the public purpose of presenting community events at public parks and recreational facilities.

HISTORY

ACTION	DATE
Introduced	10-07-15
Reported, H. Local Gov't	02-23-16
Passed House (96-0)	04-27-16

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⁴ R.C. 505.261, last paragraph, 511.23(H), and 755.13(B). Perhaps "community events" may include such things as concerts, movies, arts and crafts fairs, festivals, or fireworks displays, but they are not designated by the bill.

