A B I L L

To allow the Ohio Public Works Commission, the Ohio Water Development Authority, the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency, county auditors, and county recorders, during the state of emergency due to COVID-19, to waive certain penalties and late fees, suspend certain reporting requirements, and waive electronic recording fees, and to declare an emergency.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:

Section 1. During the period of the emergency declared by Executive Order 2020-01D, issued on March 9, 2020, all of the following apply:

(A) Notwithstanding Chapter 164. of the Revised Code or any other provision of law to the contrary, the Ohio Public Works Commission may automatically extend project schedules. The extension shall be for a duration determined by the Commission. The Commission shall not provide for an extension if federal law does not provide for or allow an extension regarding any particular project. The Commission also may waive penalties and
late fees owed to the Commission from the issuance of outstanding loans.

(B) Notwithstanding Chapter 6121. or Chapter 6123. of the Revised Code or any other provision of law to the contrary, the Ohio Water Development Authority may waive penalties and late fees owed to the Authority from the issuance of outstanding loans.

(C) Notwithstanding Chapter 3734., Chapter 3745., or Chapter 6119. of the Revised Code or any other provision of law to the contrary, the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency may waive penalties or late fees owed to the Agency from the issuance of outstanding loans or permits. The Agency also may suspend reporting requirements for a water research recovery facility or solid waste facility.

(D) Notwithstanding section 319.54 of the Revised Code or any other provision of law to the contrary, a county auditor may waive any electronic filing or recording fees.

(E) Notwithstanding section 317.32 of the Revised Code or any other provision of law to the contrary, a county recorder may waive any electronic filing or recording fees.

Section 2. This act is an emergency measure necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, and safety. The reason for such necessity is that immediate action is crucial to protecting the public health during an outbreak of COVID-19. Therefore, this act goes into immediate effect.