

**As Passed by the House**

**136th General Assembly**

**Regular Session**

**2025-2026**

**Am. H. B. No. 603**

**Representative Moore**

**Cosponsors: Representatives Ritter, Johnson, Holmes, Robb Blasdel, Fischer,  
Rogers, Bird, Brennan, Salvo, Sigrist, Stephens, Williams, Willis**

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To enact section 6101.162 of the Revised Code to 1  
prohibit a conservancy district's board of 2  
directors from including certain provisions, 3  
such as an indemnification clause, in a contract 4  
for the procurement of goods or services. 5

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

**Section 1.** That section 6101.162 of the Revised Code be 6  
enacted to read as follows: 7

**Sec. 6101.162.** (A) Except as otherwise required or 8  
permitted by state or federal law, a contract entered into by a 9  
conservancy district for the procurement of goods or services 10  
shall not include any of the following: 11

(1) A provision that requires the conservancy district to 12  
indemnify or hold harmless another person; 13

(2) A provision that names a venue for any action or 14  
dispute against the conservancy district other than a court of 15  
proper jurisdiction in the state; 16

(3) A provision that requires the conservancy district to 17  
agree to limit the liability for any direct loss to the district 18

for bodily injury, death, or damage to property of the district 19  
caused by the negligence, intentional or willful misconduct, 20  
fraudulent act, recklessness, or other tortious conduct of a 21  
person or a person's employees or agents, or a provision that 22  
otherwise imposes an indemnification obligation on the district; 23

(4) A provision that requires the conservancy district to 24  
be bound by a term or condition that is unknown to the district 25  
at the time of signing a contract, that is not specifically 26  
negotiated with the district, that may be unilaterally changed 27  
by the other party, or that is electronically accepted by a 28  
district employee; 29

(5) A provision that is inconsistent with the conservancy 30  
district's obligations under section 149.43 of the Revised Code; 31

(6) A provision that limits the conservancy district's 32  
ability to recover the cost for a replacement contractor. 33

(B) If a contract contains a term or condition described 34  
in division (A) of this section, the term or condition is void 35  
ab initio. The contract containing that term or condition 36  
otherwise is enforceable as if it did not contain such term or 37  
condition. 38

(C) This section does not apply to a contract in effect 39  
before the effective date of this section or to the renewal or 40  
extension of a contract in effect before the effective date of 41  
this section. 42