



Ohio's "6119" Regional Water & Sewer Districts

February 7, 2022

Chairman Wiggam
Ranking Member Kelly
Members of the House State and Local Government Committee

Re: Support for SB 15

Chairman Wiggam, Ranking Member Kelly, and members of the House State and Local Government Committee:

Thank you for allowing me to submit comments today on behalf of the Coalition of Ohio Regional Districts (CORD) in support of an amendment to SB 15 that will extend the negligence standard created in the bill to fiscal officers of regional water and sewer districts.

CORD is a non-profit association established to assist, protect, and advance the interests of Ohio's Regional Water and Sewer Districts, also known as "6119 Districts" since they are established under Chapter 6119 of the Ohio Revised Code. 6119 Districts provide potable water, sanitary sewer, and storm water services to over 1 million customers in the State of Ohio.

SB 15 ensures that public fiscal officers are protected when their official duties are performed with reasonable care. Such officials would still be held responsible if the loss of public funding is the result of the officer's negligence or other wrongful acts.

The bill currently applies this protection to the following: county auditor, county treasurer, township fiscal officer, deputy township fiscal officer, the treasurer of a municipal corporation, community college district, technical college district, or state community college district, the fiscal officer or deputy fiscal officer of the board of library trustees, and the treasurer, auditor, or other fiscal officer of a charter county. **We would ask similar protections to be provided to those officers working for a regional water and sewer district created in ORC 6119.**

CORD has worked with Senator Wilson, the Auditor of State, as well as the County Treasurers Association of Ohio on this amendment. We would like to thank them for their work on this important bill and urge this committees support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "John B. Albers", is written over a blue wavy line.

John B. Albers
Coalition of Ohio Regional Districts (CORD)
Executive Committee Member