



H.B. 70

124th General Assembly
(As Introduced)

Reps. Latell, D. Miller, Redfern, Hartnett, S. Smith

BILL SUMMARY

- Requires the Director of the Ohio Public Works Commission to allocate \$2,500,000 of the net proceeds of obligations paid into the State Capital Improvements Fund among counties, municipal corporations, and townships having Amish communities located within their boundaries for grants for eligible projects improving Amish buggy safety on roadways.

CONTENT AND OPERATION

The bill provides that notwithstanding certain allocations established in current law, for each of the two program years commencing after the effective date of the bill, the Director of the Ohio Public Works Commission first must allocate \$2,500,000 of the net proceeds of obligations paid into the State Capital Improvements Fund among counties, municipal corporations, and townships having Amish communities located within their boundaries. The amounts allocated must be used to make grants for eligible projects improving Amish buggy safety on roadways in accordance with the bill. (Section 1(A).)

Any of the following types of projects are eligible for grants under the bill:

- (1) Constructing or widening shoulders, including widening of bridges and culverts and purchase of rights-of-way, if necessary;
- (2) Constructing pull-off lanes for roadways with visibility issues;
- (3) Improving vertical and horizontal curvature of roadways;
- (4) Placement of warning signs for buggy traffic, including automated flashing signs;
- (5) Studies to determine and establish appropriate reduced speed limits;
- (6) Programs to increase buggy visibility; and

(7) Other projects identified as enhancing Amish buggy safety on Ohio's roadways. (Section 1(B).)

The bill permits the Director to require the use of the procedures established in the Aid to Local Government Improvements Law (also known as the State Issue 2 Law), or the Director may establish alternative procedures for making applications and for reviewing, approving, and rejecting projects for which assistance is authorized under the bill. The Director may require municipal corporations and townships to cooperate with the county in which they are located and prioritize the projects for which assistance is requested under the bill. The bill requires the Director to prioritize project approval based on the greatest potential for improved safety at locations with a pattern of accidents between buggies and motor vehicles. (Section 1(C).)

In evaluating a request for financial assistance under the Aid to Local Government Improvements Law, neither a District Public Works Integrating Committee nor the Director may deny a request of a municipal corporation, township, or county on the grounds that it had received a grant under the bill (Section 1(D)).

HISTORY

ACTION	DATE	JOURNAL ENTRY
Introduced	02-06-01	p. 138

H0070-I.124/jc