



## **H.B. 387**

126th General Assembly  
(As Introduced)

**Reps. J. McGregor, Combs, Yuko, Law, Webster, Reidelbach**

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### **BILL SUMMARY**

- Abolishes the Office of Coastal Management created by the Department of Natural Resources, and transfers its duty to oversee Ohio's coastal management program to the Division of Soil and Water Conservation in the Department.

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### **CONTENT AND OPERATION**

Current law declares that the Department of Natural Resources is the lead agency for the development and implementation of a coastal management program (sec. 1506.02). In order to effectuate its role as the lead agency for that program, the Department has established the Office of Coastal Management.

The bill abolishes the Office of Coastal Management and transfers the authority to administer Ohio's coastal management program to the Division of Soil and Water Conservation in the Department of Natural Resources (sec. 1511.02(O) and Section 3). The bill requires the Director of Natural Resources to require the Division of Soil and Water Conservation to administer the coastal management program. For purposes of that administration, references to the Director in statutes dealing with coastal management may be deemed to be references to the Chief of the Division of Soil and Water Conservation. The Division must implement the administration of the coastal management program through its office in Columbus and through local soil and water conservation districts. (Sec. 1506.02(A)(2).)

To effectuate the abolition of the Office of Coastal Management, the bill eliminates appropriations made to the Office and correspondingly increases appropriations made to the Division of Soil and Water Conservation (Section 4). The bill also declares that the Office's functions and assets, liabilities, equipment, and records, irrespective of form or medium, must be transferred to the Division. Permits that were issued or leases that were entered into by the Office are required to remain in effect until their expiration, at which time they may be renewed by

the Division. Any business commenced, but not completed, by the Office on the effective date of the bill must be completed by the Division. The bill declares that no validation, cure, right, privilege, remedy, obligation, or liability is lost or impaired by reason of the transfer. (Section 3.)

Finally, the Director of Administrative Services is required to review the lease agreements for the properties being leased on the bill's effective date by the Office of Coastal Management and provide notice to the Department of Natural Resources of any interest expressed by any state entity in acquiring any of those leases. If the Director of Administrative Services provides notice to the Department of Natural Resources that no state entity has expressed an interest in assuming the leases held by the Office of Coastal Management, the Director of Administrative Services and Department of Natural Resources must take actions to fulfill the terms of the lease agreements and vacate the Office of Coastal Management from the leased property as soon as possible. (Section 4.)

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## HISTORY

| ACTION     | DATE     | JOURNAL ENTRY |
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