
Detailed Fiscal Analysis

The bill makes numerous changes to the Township Park District law. The changes with potential fiscal impact are listed below. According to the Ohio Parks and Receptions Association (OPRA), there are 30 township and/or joint recreations districts in the state.

Potential revenue gains

The bill creates new revenue possibilities for township park districts (TPD) by permitting these districts to:

- Establish fines and other penalties for violations of park rules that go to the TPD
- Lease park land to others and charge fees for use of park land and facilities
- Sell park lands with approval of TPD's appointing authority, instead of requiring a vote of electors
- Accept donations of land, money, or property without approval of the appointing authority
- Accept contributions from township trustees without approval of the appointing authority if the TPD has land in the relevant township (the bill also includes county park districts in this provision)
- Issue revenue securities; this would be a short term gain

Potential cost increases

The bill also increases a TPD's authority to engage in activities for which they could have increased costs. This includes allowing TPD to:

- Obtain land not coterminous with the township, as long as 75% of its acreage is within the township
- Issue revenue securities; this would increase debt service costs
- Set policies regarding use of TPD credit cards (bill removes a statutory \$750 per month limit)

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