Section: 319.10

(1) Permits the Director of Budget and Management, on July 1 of each fiscal year, or as soon as possible thereafter, to transfer up to $25,000 from each of the following funds to the Lake Erie Protection Fund (Fund 4C00):

(a) Environmental Protection Fund (Fund 5BC0) used by the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency.
(b) Pesticide, Fertilizer and Lime Fund (Fund 6690) used by the Department of Agriculture.
(c) General Operations Fund (Fund 4700) used by the Department of Health.
(d) Central Support Indirect Fund (Fund 1570) used by the Department of Natural Resources.

(2) Permits the Director of Budget and Management, on July 1 of each fiscal year, or as soon as possible thereafter, to transfer $25,000 from a fund used by the Development Services Agency, as specified by the Director of Development Services, to Fund 4C00.

(3) Permits Fund 4C00 to accept contributions and transfers made to the fund.
Creation of the H2Ohio Fund

R.C. 126.60

Creates the H2Ohio Fund (Fund 6H20) in the state treasury consisting of money credited to it and any donations, gifts, bequests, and other money received for deposit in the fund.

Requires Fund 6H20 to be used for the following purposes: (1) awarding or allocating grants or money, issuing loans, or making purchases for the development and implementation of projects and programs that are designed to address water quality priorities, (2) funding cooperative research, data gathering and monitoring, and demonstration projects related to water quality priorities, (3) encouraging cooperation with and among leaders from state legislatures, state agencies, political subdivisions, business and industry, labor, agriculture, environmental organizations, and water conservation districts, and (4) other purposes, policies, programs, and priorities identified by the Lake Erie Commission (LEC) in coordination with the state agencies or boards responsible for water protection and water management.

Requires that the LEC, in coordination with state agencies or boards responsible for water protection and water management, prepare a report on the activities undertaken under Fund 6H20 during the immediately preceding FY, including the revenues and expenses of the fund for the preceding FY, and submit the report to the General Assembly and the Governor.

Fiscal effect: The bill requires a portion of FY 2019 GRF surplus revenue and the entire balance of FY 2020 and FY 2021 GRF surplus moneys to be deposited into Fund 6H20 (see OBMCD44 and OBMCD56). It appropriates $85.2 million in FY 2020 under Fund 6H20 to be used by DNR, AGR, and EPA. The funding is distributed as follows: (1) $46.2 million is appropriated under appropriation item 725681, H2Ohio, used by DNR, (2) $30.3 million under appropriation item 700670, H2Ohio, used by AGR, and (3) $8.7 million under appropriation item 715695, H2Ohio, used by EPA.