

As Introduced

**129th General Assembly
Regular Session
2011-2012**

H. B. No. 447

Representative Stinziano

**Cosponsors: Representatives Adams, J., Antonio, Cera, Goyal, Henne,
Letson, Phillips, Yuko**

—

A B I L L

To create a pilot program in the Department of 1
Development to provide technical assistance to 2
eligible businesses and to make an appropriation. 3

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:

Section 1. (A) As used in this section: 4

(1) "Eligible business" means a for-profit business 5
association that has at least six employees but not more than 6
ninety-nine employees and that has maintained its principal place 7
of business in the state for at least a two-year period ending on 8
the date the business applies for assistance under this section. 9
The business must generate at least seven hundred fifty thousand 10
dollars but not more than twenty-five million dollars in annual 11
revenue and must have increased both its number of full-time 12
equivalent employees in this state and its gross revenue during at 13
least three of the five years preceding the date of application. 14

(2) "Full-time equivalent employee" means the quotient 15
obtained by dividing the total number of hours for which an 16
eligible business employs employees during a year by two thousand 17
eighty. 18

(B) There is hereby created in the department of development 19
the economic gardening technical assistance pilot program. The 20
director of development may contract with or coordinate one or 21
more persons to aid in the administration and operation of the 22
program. 23

The director shall provide technical assistance to eligible 24
businesses, including, but not limited to, access to information 25
and market intelligence services, including information on 26
markets, customers, and competitors, such as business databases, 27
geographic information systems, search engine marketing, and 28
business connection development encouraging interaction and 29
exchange among business owners and resource providers such as 30
trade associations, academic institutions, business advocacy 31
organizations, peer-based learning sessions, and mentoring 32
programs. The director, through the program, is authorized to 33
promote the general business and industrial interests of the 34
state. 35

(C)(1) The director, in selecting eligible businesses to 36
assist, shall select businesses in more than one industry 37
classification and, to the extent practicable, shall choose 38
businesses that are geographically distributed throughout the 39
state. 40

(2) A business receiving assistance under the program must 41
enter into an agreement with the director to establish the 42
business's commitment to participate in the program. The agreement 43
must require, at a minimum, that the business do all of the 44
following: 45

(a) Attend the number of meetings between the business and 46
the director or another person designated by the director as 47
prescribed in the agreement; 48

(b) Report job creation data in the manner prescribed by the 49

director; 50

(c) Provide financial data in the manner prescribed by the 51
director. 52

The director may prescribe in the agreement additional 53
reporting requirements as are necessary to document the progress 54
of the business and monitor the business's implementation of the 55
assistance. 56

(D) On or before one year after the effective date ofB. 57
.... of the 129th General Assembly, the director of development 58
shall make available on the department of development's web site a 59
report that includes, at a minimum, the number of businesses 60
receiving assistance under this section, the number of full-time 61
equivalent employees created as a result of the assistance, the 62
total amount of compensation paid for such employees, and the 63
locations and types of business conducted by the businesses. The 64
report shall also evaluate the effectiveness of the economic 65
gardening technical assistance pilot program and recommend any 66
changes to be made to the program. The report shall be submitted 67
to the governor, the speaker and minority leader of the house of 68
representatives, and the majority leader and minority leader of 69
the senate. 70

(E) The director of development shall adopt rules in 71
accordance with Chapter 119. of the Revised Code that are 72
necessary for the administration of the economic gardening 73
technical assistance pilot program. 74

Section 2. Section 1 ofB. of the 129th General 75
Assembly is hereby repealed, effective two years after the 76
effective date ofB. of the 129th General Assembly. 77

Section 3. All items in this section are hereby appropriated 78
as designated out of any moneys in the state treasury to the 79

credit of the General Revenue Fund. For all appropriations made in 80
this act, those in the first column are for fiscal year 2012 and 81
those in the second column are for fiscal year 2013. The 82
appropriations made in this act are in addition to any other 83
appropriations made for the FY 2012-FY 2013 biennium. 84

Appropriations

DEV DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT 85

General Revenue Fund 86

GRF	195530	Economic Gardening	\$	250,000	\$	250,000	87
-----	--------	--------------------	----	---------	----	---------	----

Pilot Program

TOTAL GRF		General Revenue Fund	\$	250,000	\$	250,000	88
-----------	--	----------------------	----	---------	----	---------	----

TOTAL ALL BUDGET FUND GROUPS			\$	250,000	\$	250,000	89
------------------------------	--	--	----	---------	----	---------	----

ECONOMIC GARDENING TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PILOT PROGRAM 90

The foregoing appropriation item 195530, Economic Gardening 91
Pilot Program, shall be used for the Economic Gardening Technical 92
Assistance Pilot Program established in section 122.97 of the 93
Revised Code. 94

Within the limits set forth in this act, the Director of 95
Budget and Management shall establish accounts indicating the 96
source and amount of funds for each appropriation made in this 97
act, and shall determine the form and manner in which 98
appropriation accounts shall be maintained. Expenditures from 99
appropriations contained in this act shall be accounted for as 100
though made in Am. Sub. H.B. 153 of the 129th General Assembly. 101

The appropriations made in this act are subject to all 102
provisions of Am. Sub. H.B. 153 of the 129th General Assembly that 103
are generally applicable to such appropriations. 104

Section 4. Sections 1, 2, 3, and 4 of this act are not 105
subject to the referendum under Ohio Constitution, Article II, 106
Section 1d, and section 1.471 of the Revised Code, and therefore 107

those sections take effect immediately when this act becomes law.

108