



**House
Legislative
Analysis
Section**

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GREAT LAKES CLEAN-UP GRANTS

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House Bill 4425

Sponsor: Rep. Charlie J. Harrison, Jr.

Committee: Appropriations

Complete to 4-24-89

A SUMMARY OF HOUSE BILL 4425 AS INTRODUCED 3-14-89

The bill would create the Great Lakes Clean-up Grants Act, which would establish a grant program to fund clean-up projects in the Great Lakes and its major tributaries. (A "major tributary" would have a drainage area that either exceeded 700 square miles or contained a population of at least one million.) The program would be administered by the Department of Natural Resources (DNR). The legislature would appropriate funds necessary to implement the bill.

Clean-up projects. "Clean-up" would include clearing debris; building, restoring, or removing structures; bank erosion control along tributaries; and other clean-up activities. The term would not include remedial action at sites of toxic contamination.

Eligible organizations. Grants would be made available to organizations in cities, villages, and townships bordering the Great Lakes or major tributaries. Eligible organizations would include municipal governing bodies, watershed councils, groups approved by the DNR, and combinations of these entities.

Grants. A grant could fund up to 50 percent of a clean-up project, but could not exceed \$25,000, nor could it supplement other state funds for a clean-up project.

Grant criteria. In selecting grant recipients, the department would have to consider at least the following factors: geographic and demographic distribution of grants; an applicant's commitment to the remaining funding of the project and to a continuing clean-up or protection program; extent of community support; extent to which the project would stimulate an awareness of the Lakes, tributaries, and adjacent natural areas; likely effectiveness of the project; protection of endangered or threatened species, wetlands, or other environmentally sensitive areas; and the extent to which the project would contribute to public use and enjoyment of the area.

Rules. The department would by rule establish criteria for approving community organizations, an applicant review procedure, and additional criteria for selecting grant recipients.

Reports. The department would make annual reports on grant distributions and uses to the governor, the House Committee on Conservation and Environment, the Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs, and the House and Senate Appropriations subcommittees with responsibility for the DNR budget.

House Bill 4425 (4-24-89)