

**JBC STAFF FISCAL ANALYSIS  
HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE**

CONCERNING REAUTHORIZATION OF THE RURAL JUMP-START ZONE PROGRAM.

Prime Sponsors: Reps. Lukens and Taggart  
Sens. Roberts and Simpson

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Phone: 303-866-4957  
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**Appropriation Items of Note**

**Appropriation Required, Amendment in Packet**

**General Fund/TABOR Impact**

**Significant Cost Increase in Second Year**

**Fiscal Impact of Bill as Amended to Date**

The most recent Legislative Council Staff Fiscal Note (attached) reflects the fiscal impact of the bill as of 01/31/24.

<b>XXX</b>	<b>No Change:</b> Attached LCS Fiscal Note accurately reflects the fiscal impact of the bill
	<b>Update:</b> Fiscal impact has changed due to <i>new information or technical issues</i>
	<b>Update:</b> Fiscal impact has changed due to <i>amendment adopted</i> after LCS Fiscal Note was prepared
	<b>Non-Concurrence:</b> JBC Staff and Legislative Council Staff disagree about the fiscal impact of the bill

The Business Affairs and Labor Committee Report (02/01/24) includes amendments to the bill, however, Legislative Council Staff and JBC Staff agree that the committee amendments do not change the fiscal impact of the bill.

**Amendments in This Packet for Consideration by Appropriations Committee**

<b>Amendment</b>	<b>Description</b>
J.001	Staff-prepared appropriation amendment
L.003	Bill Sponsor amendment - changes fiscal impact

**Current Appropriations Clause in Bill**

The bill requires but does not contain an appropriation clause.

**Description of Amendments in This Packet**

**J.001** Staff has prepared amendment **J.001** (attached) to add a provision appropriating a total of \$873,304 cash funds to the Office of the Governor for FY 2024-25 from the Rural Jump-Start Zone Grant Fund Account. This provision also states that the appropriation is based on the assumption that the Office will require an additional 1.5 FTE.

**L.003** Bill Sponsor amendment **L.003** (attached) changes from June 30, 2026 to June 30, 2025 the date at which funds remaining in the Rural Jump-Start Zone Grant Fund Account will revert to the General Fund. Under current law, these were scheduled to be transferred on June 30, 2024.

**The Committee should adopt amendment J.001 regardless of whether it adopts amendment L.003.**

**Points to Consider**

*General Fund Impact*

The Joint Budget Committee has proposed a budget package for FY 2024-25 based on the March 2024 Office of State Planning and Budgeting (OSPB) revenue forecast. The budget package includes \$63.1 million in set-asides for legislation outside of the package (see table below). The budget package accounts for the 15.0 percent reserve associated with the placeholders (a total of \$9.5 million).

General Fund Appropriation Placeholders for Other 2024 Legislation	
Description	FY 2024-25
General Legislative Priorities	\$21,739,130
Legislation for Shared Housing Priorities	12,043,478
Legislation for Shared Workforce and Education Priorities	16,152,110
Legislation for Other Shared Priorities	10,519,130
Legislation for Distributions to Rural Hospitals	2,608,689
<b>TOTAL Placeholders for Other 2024 Legislation</b>	<b>\$63,062,537</b>

This bill eliminates a transfer of cash funds to the General Fund totaling \$873,304 for FY 2023-24, reducing the \$63.1 million set aside by the same amount.

*TABOR/ Excess State Revenues Impact*

The March 2024 Office of State Planning and Budgeting (OSPB) revenue forecast projects a TABOR surplus liability of \$1.3 billion for FY 2024-25 and \$1.8 billion for FY 2025-26 to be refunded to taxpayers out of the General Fund. These sums must be refunded to taxpayers out of the

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General Fund. This bill is estimated to decrease General Fund revenues by \$0.5 million in FY 2024-25, by \$1.1 million in FY 2025-26, and by \$1.2 million in FY 2026-27, which will result in a decrease in the TABOR surplus liability of equal amounts.