

JBC Staff Fiscal Analysis
Senate Appropriations Committee

Concerning the creation of the wild horse special license plate, and, in connection therewith, making an appropriation.

Prime Sponsors:
Representatives Duran; Suckla
Senator Kipp

Date Prepared:
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Fiscal Impacts

Appropriation Already Added to Bill, Amendments in Packet

TABOR Impact

Significant Appropriation Increase in Second Year

Fiscal Note Status

The most recent Legislative Council Staff Revised Fiscal Note (attached) reflects the fiscal impact of the bill as of 05/04/26.

Update: Fiscal impact has changed due to amendment adopted after LCS Fiscal Note was prepared.

The Senate Finance Committee Report (05/07/26) includes an amendment to the bill which eliminates any TABOR impact beginning in FY 2028-29. JBC Staff and Legislative Council Staff agree on the fiscal impact of the amendment.

Amendments in This Packet

- J.002 Staff-prepared appropriation amendment
- L.007 Bill Sponsor amendment - changes fiscal impact.

Current Appropriations Clause in Bill

The bill includes an appropriation clause appropriating a total of \$152,611 cash funds to the Department of Revenue for FY 2026-27, including \$31,536 from the DRIVES Cash Fund and \$121,075 from the License Plate Cash Fund.

Description of Amendments in This Packet

J.002

Staff amendment **J.002** (attached) reduces the current appropriation to the Department of Revenue by \$9,199 cash funds from the DRIVES Cash Fund to the Department of Revenue for FY 2026-27 reflecting reduced programming costs.

L.007

Bill Sponsor amendment **L.007** (attached) transfers money from the Wild Horse Fund to the License Plate Cash Fund to cover the costs associated with producing the specialty license plates. The bill also eliminates the license plate material fee during the effective period, with production costs instead paid from the Wild Horse Cash Fund. These provisions repeal on July 1, 2028, after which the material fee will resume and costs will be collected and administered under current law.

Points to Consider

The Joint Budget Committee has proposed a budget package for FY 2026-27 based on the March 2026 Office of State Planning and Budgeting (OSP) revenue forecast. The budget package includes \$42.3 million in set-asides for legislation outside of the package (see table below). The budget package accounts for the 13.0 percent reserve associated with the placeholders.

General Fund Appropriation Placeholders for Other 2026 Legislation (\$ in millions)

Item	FY 2026-27
SB 26-149 (Pathways for Individuals with Mental Health Disorders)	\$25.9
Potential prison capacity supplemental	5.9
Applied behavioral analysis licensing	5.0
County Administration shared services	3.1
SB 26-042 (Revenue Classification TABOR)	2.3
Medicaid working group	0.5
HB 26-1331 (Modify 2026 Interim Committees)	-0.4
Total - Placeholders for other legislation	\$42.3

TABOR/ Excess State Revenues Impact

The bill is estimated to increase cash fund revenue by \$878,825 in FY 2026-27 and by \$2.2 million in FY 2027-28. Of these amounts, \$120,825 in FY 2026-27 and \$250,927 in FY 2027-28 is non-exempt revenue and will reduce the available General Fund in each fiscal year by an equal amount.

Sponsor amendment **L.007** eliminates the TABOR impact.