

**JBC STAFF FISCAL ANALYSIS
SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE**

CONCERNING HEALTHY FORESTS, AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, MAKING AN APPROPRIATION.

Prime Sponsors: Reps. Cutter and Valdez D.
Sens. Ginal and Lee

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Appropriation Items of Note

Appropriation Already Added to Bill, Amendment in Packet

General Fund Impact

Fiscal Impact of Bill as Amended to Date

The most recent Legislative Council Staff Revised Fiscal Note (attached) reflects the fiscal impact of the bill as of 04/22/22.

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

Amendments in This Packet for Consideration by Appropriations Committee

Amendment	Description
L.008	Bill Sponsor amendment - changes fiscal impact

Current Appropriations Clause in Bill

The bill includes an appropriation clause that provides an appropriation of \$95,407 General Fund to the Healthy Forests and Vibrant Communities Fund.

Description of Amendments in This Packet

L.008 Bill Sponsor amendment **L.008** (attached) includes FY 2022-23 transfers from the General Fund to the following continuously appropriated cash funds:

- \$3,000,000 to the Healthy Forests and Vibrant Communities Fund administered by the Colorado State Forest Service at Colorado State University.
- \$2,200,000 to the Forest Restoration and Wildfire Risk Mitigation Cash Fund administered by the Colorado State Forest Service at Colorado State University.

- \$2,000,000 to the Wildfire Mitigation Capacity Development Fund administered by the Department of Natural Resources.

These transfers are one-time only, and the provisions all repeal July 1, 2023. Because each of the recipient funds is continuously appropriated, no appropriations clause is required if this amendment is adopted.

Points to Consider

General Fund Impact

The Joint Budget Committee has proposed a budget package for FY 2022-23 based on the March 2022 Legislative Council Staff revenue forecast. The budget package includes two set-asides:

- \$40.0 million General Fund for bills that create ongoing obligations; and
- \$900.0 million General Fund for bills that create one-time obligations in FY 2022-23.

The \$40.0 million *appropriations* set-aside includes an additional \$6.0 million General Fund to provide a 15.0 percent General Fund reserve for those appropriations. The \$900.0 million *obligations* set-aside does not include an additional amount for a General Fund reserve and, assumes, but does not require, that obligations be addressed through statutory transfers rather than appropriations. Therefore *appropriations* from the \$900.0 million set-aside require an additional 15.0 percent to maintain the statutory General Fund reserve.

This bill creates an ongoing obligation and requires a General Fund appropriation of \$95,407 for FY 2022-23, reducing the \$40.0 million set aside by the same amount.

If sponsor amendment L.008 is adopted, this bill also creates a one-time obligation and includes General Fund transfers of \$7.2 million for FY 2022-23, reducing the \$900.0 million set aside by the same amount.