



Legislative Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

FISCAL NOTE

Drafting Number: LLS 20-0325
Prime Sponsors:

Date: October 16, 2019
Bill Status: Bill Request
Fiscal Analyst: Max Nardo | 303-866-4776
Max.Nardo@state.co.us

Bill Topic: GA TO APPROVE EXPENDITURES FOR WATER PLAN CASH FUND

- Summary of Fiscal Impact:
- State Revenue
- State Expenditure (minimal)
- State Transfer
- TABOR Refund
- Local Government
- Statutory Public Entity

This bill requires that expenditures from the Water Plan Implementation Cash Fund follow the same legislative approval requirements as the Colorado Water Conservation Board Construction Fund. It minimally increases state workload on an ongoing basis.

Appropriation Summary: No appropriation is required.

Fiscal Note Status: The fiscal note reflects the bill draft requested by the Water Resources Review Committee.

Summary of Legislation

This bill requires that expenditures from the Water Plan Implementation Cash Fund (fund) follow the same legislative approval requirements as the Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB) Construction Fund, including authorizing the General Assembly to prioritize specific projects and authorizing the CWCB to make loans up to \$10 million without General Assembly approval. The CWCB is required to describe any such loan in a written report to the General Assembly by January 15 of the year following the year in which the loan is made.

Background

Water Plan Implementation Cash Fund. The fund was conditionally created by House Bill 19-1327 and its establishment is contingent on voter approval of Proposition DD at the November 2019 statewide election. If Proposition DD is approved, the fund will be established in May 2020. The fund is authorized to receive deposits from sports betting revenue, which would be legalized through the same ballot question, and any other money allocated by the General Assembly. The fund may be used for grants through the Water Plan Implementation Grant Program, along with any expenditures that will ensure compliance with interstate water allocation compacts, equitable apportionment decrees, international treaties, and federal laws relating to interstate storage, release, apportionment, and allocation of water. Any expenditures related to the administration of this fund may also be paid out of the fund.

### **State Expenditures**

The bill will increase workload for the Department of Natural Resources to adhere to the process created by the bill for expenditures from the fund and to report on loans. No additional appropriation is needed.

### **Effective Date**

The bill takes effect August 5, 2020, if the General Assembly adjourns on May 6, 2020, as scheduled, and no referendum petition is filed.

### **State Appropriations**

No appropriation is required.

### **State and Local Government Contacts**

Natural Resources