

Second Regular Session  
Sixty-sixth General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 08-0291.01 Jason Gelender

SENATE BILL 08-013

---

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Schwartz,

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Fischer,

---

Senate Committees

Agriculture, Natural Resources & Energy

House Committees

---

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101     **CONCERNING THE APPROPRIATION OF MONEYS FROM THE**  
102             **OPERATIONAL ACCOUNT OF THE SEVERANCE TAX TRUST FUND**  
103             **TO THE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES FOR PROGRAMS**  
104             **RECOMMENDED BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE**  
105             **DEPARTMENT, AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, REDUCING BY**  
106             **A SPECIFIED NUMBER OF PERCENTAGE POINTS THE MAXIMUM**  
107             **PERCENTAGES OF TOTAL AVAILABLE OPERATIONAL ACCOUNT**  
108             **MONEYS THAT MAY BE APPROPRIATED FOR PROGRAMS WITHIN**  
109             **THE COLORADO OIL AND GAS CONSERVATION COMMISSION AND**  
110             **THE DIVISION OF RECLAMATION, MINING, AND SAFETY,**  
111             **ALLOWING APPROPRIATIONS TO BE MADE IN AMOUNTS UP TO A**  
112             **SPECIFIED PERCENTAGE OF THE TOTAL AVAILABLE**

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.  
*Capital letters indicate new material to be added to existing statute.*  
*Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.*

101 OPERATIONAL ACCOUNT MONEYS FOR PROGRAMS WITHIN THE  
102 DIVISION OF WILDLIFE AND THE DIVISION OF PARKS AND  
103 OUTDOOR RECREATION, AND EXEMPTING APPROPRIATIONS  
104 MADE TO THE DIVISION OF WILDLIFE FROM THE TWO-YEAR  
105 RESERVE REQUIREMENT OF THE OPERATIONAL ACCOUNT.

---

### Bill Summary

*(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not necessarily reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted.)*

**Interim Committee to Study the Allocation of Severance Tax and Federal Mineral Lease Revenues.** Modifies the scope of permissible appropriations from the operational account of the severance tax trust fund to the department of natural resources to fund programs recommended by the executive director of the department as follows:

- ! Reduces by a specified number of percentage points the maximum percentages of total available operational account moneys that may be appropriated for programs within the Colorado oil and gas conservation commission and the division of reclamation, mining, and safety.
- ! Allows appropriations to be made in amounts up to a specified percentage of the total available operational account moneys for programs within the division of wildlife and the division of parks and outdoor recreation.
- ! Exempts appropriations made to the division of wildlife from the 2-year reserve requirement of the operational account.

---

1 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

2 **SECTION 1.** 39-29-109 (1) (c) (I) (A), (1) (c) (I) (C), and (1) (c)  
3 (III) (A), Colorado Revised Statutes, are amended, and the said 39-29-109  
4 (1) (c) (I) is further amended BY THE ADDITION OF THE  
5 FOLLOWING NEW SUB-SUBPARAGRAPHS, to read:

6 **39-29-109. Severance task trust fund - created -**  
7 **administration - use of moneys - definitions - repeal.** (1) (c) (I) For

1 fiscal years commencing on and after July 1, 1997, the executive director  
2 of the department of natural resources shall submit with the department's  
3 budget request for each fiscal year a list and description of the programs  
4 the executive director recommends to be funded from the operational  
5 account of the severance tax trust fund. The state minerals, energy, and  
6 geology policy advisory board established pursuant to section 34-20-104,  
7 C.R.S., shall review the executive director's recommendation before  
8 submittal. The general assembly may appropriate moneys from the total  
9 moneys available in the operational account of the severance tax trust  
10 fund to fund recommended programs as follows:

11 (A) For programs or projects within the Colorado oil and gas  
12 conservation commission, up to forty-five percent of the moneys in the  
13 operational account FOR FISCAL YEARS COMMENCING BEFORE JULY 1,  
14 2008, AND UP TO FORTY PERCENT OF THE MONEYS IN THE OPERATIONAL  
15 ACCOUNT FOR FISCAL YEARS COMMENCING ON OR AFTER JULY 1, 2008;

16 (C) For programs within the division of reclamation, mining, and  
17 safety, up to thirty percent of the moneys in the operational account FOR  
18 FISCAL YEARS COMMENCING BEFORE JULY 1, 2008, AND UP TO  
19 TWENTY-FIVE PERCENT OF THE MONEYS IN THE OPERATIONAL ACCOUNT  
20 FOR FISCAL YEARS COMMENCING ON OR AFTER JULY 1, 2008. As part of  
21 ~~such thirty percent~~ ANY APPROPRIATION MADE, five hundred thousand  
22 dollars, or so much as may be available, shall be transferred to the  
23 abandoned mine reclamation fund created in section 34-34-102, C.R.S.

24 (E) FOR FISCAL YEARS COMMENCING ON OR AFTER JULY 1, 2008,  
25 ONLY, FOR PROGRAMS WITHIN THE DIVISION OF WILDLIFE THAT RESEARCH,  
26 MONITOR, MANAGE, OR MITIGATE THE IMPACTS OF MINERAL OR MINERAL  
27 FUEL PRODUCTION ACTIVITIES ON WILDLIFE IN THE STATE, UP TO FIVE

1 PERCENT OF THE MONEYS IN THE OPERATIONAL ACCOUNT, WHICH MONEYS  
2 SHALL NOT SUPPLANT MONEYS THAT WOULD OTHERWISE BE MADE  
3 AVAILABLE FOR SUCH PROGRAMS.

4 (F) FOR FISCAL YEARS COMMENCING ON OR AFTER JULY 1, 2008,  
5 ONLY, FOR PROGRAMS WITHIN THE DIVISION OF PARKS AND OUTDOOR  
6 RECREATION THAT OPERATE, MAINTAIN, OR IMPROVE STATE PARKS IN THE  
7 STATE, UP TO FIVE PERCENT OF THE MONEYS IN THE OPERATIONAL  
8 ACCOUNT, WHICH MONEYS SHALL NOT SUPPLANT MONEYS THAT WOULD  
9 OTHERWISE BE MADE AVAILABLE FOR SUCH PROGRAMS.

10 (III) (A) It is the intent of the general assembly that the  
11 operational account of the severance tax trust fund maintain a state fiscal  
12 year end balance equal to twice the current state fiscal year's operating  
13 appropriations for the programs specified in this paragraph (c); except  
14 that moneys appropriated for purposes authorized by article 75 of title 37,  
15 C.R.S., AND MONEYS APPROPRIATED PURSUANT TO SUB-SUBPARAGRAPH  
16 (E) OF SUBPARAGRAPH (I) OF THIS PARAGRAPH (c) shall not be considered  
17 in establishing such two-year reserve. Moneys may be appropriated or  
18 otherwise made available from such two-year reserve only to offset  
19 temporary revenue reductions in the programs specified in this paragraph  
20 (c); except that, if the general assembly determines that transfers of  
21 moneys from the reserve are needed during a state revenue crisis, such  
22 transfers shall be a loan from the reserve to be repaid as soon as moneys  
23 are available. This provision is intended to mitigate the impact of  
24 fluctuations in the amount of revenue credited to the fund from year to  
25 year so as to maintain current levels of service for such programs.

26 **SECTION 2. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds,

- 1 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate
- 2 preservation of the public peace, health, and safety.