

CONDITIONAL FISCAL IMPACT

Drafting Number: LLS 09-0957

Date: March 31, 2009

Prime Sponsor(s): Rep. Pace; McKinley
Sen. Kester

Bill Status: House Agriculture

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TITLE: CONCERNING STATE LANDS SOUGHT TO BE ACQUIRED BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATED WITH THE EXPANSION OF THE PINON CANYON MANEUVER SITE.

Fiscal Impact Summary	FY 2009-2010	FY 2010-2011
State Revenue	See State Revenue	
State Expenditures	See State Expenditures	
FTE Position Change		
Effective Date: Upon signature of the Governor or upon becoming law without his signature.		
Appropriation Summary for FY 2009-2010: None.		
Local Government Impact: None.		

Summary of Legislation

This bill prohibits the State Board of Land Commissioners from selling or leasing any property it holds in trust to the U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) for expansion of the Piñon Canyon maneuver site. It requires the Attorney General to make it a priority to oppose any attempt by the federal government to acquire state lands associated with the expansion of the maneuver site, for which consent to acquire has been withdrawn.

Background

Fort Carson is located south of Colorado Springs and has command over and administrative responsibility for the Piñon Canyon Maneuver Site. The site consists of 235,000 acres, 95 percent (224,000 acres) of which is available for maneuver training for soldiers stationed at Fort Carson and other installations. The DoD has plans to expand the site to accommodate its training needs. HB07-1069 withdrew consent for the acquisition of, or exclusive jurisdiction over, land sought by the DoD for purposes associated with the expansion of the site. Because the specifics of the proposed expansion are not known, the fiscal note assumes that based on the most recent maps available, 11,000 acres of state trust land would be subject to the expansion to the south.

State Revenue

By prohibiting the State Land Board from selling or leasing any property to the DoD, the bill is assessed as having a conditional fiscal impact because any impact would depend on a future action of the DoD. The State Land Board currently earns about \$2 per acre or \$22,000 per year in grazing income from the potentially affected land. If the military acquires land surrounding the state trust land, and follows through with its expansion plans, the grazing income is expected to be lost. The DoD expansion plans are not known, so the amount of revenue loss and the timing of such loss, cannot be determined.

State Expenditures

If the DoD pursues expansion plans for the maneuver site, it will violate the requirements of HB09-1317. At that time, the Attorney General will be required to oppose this action. The bill is assessed as having a conditional fiscal impact because any impact depends on a future action of the DoD. Such action will result in an increase in General Fund expenditures, but the amount and timing of such expenditures, cannot be determined.

Departments Contacted

Natural Resources (State Land Board)

Law