

SB 25-262: CHANGES TO MONEY IN THE CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION FUND

Prime Sponsors:

Sen. Amabile; Kirkmeyer Rep. Bird; Taggartt

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Fiscal note status: This revised fiscal note reflects the introduced bill, as amended by the Senate Appropriations Committee. This bill was recommended by the Joint Budget Committee as part of the FY 2025-26 Long Bill budget package.

Summary Information

Overview. The bill makes transfers to fund capital construction and information technology projects and transfers interest earnings and reversions from capital and IT capital appropriations to the General Fund.

Types of impacts. The bill is projected to affect the following areas on an ongoing basis:

State Transfers

State Diversions

Appropriations. No appropriation is required.

Table 1 State Fiscal Impacts

| Type of Impact | Budget Year FY 2025-26 | Out Year FY 2026-27 |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| | | |
| State Expenditures | \$0 | \$0 |
| Transferred Funds | \$153.8 million | \$0 |
| Diverted Funds | \$12.5 million | \$12.5 million |
| Change in TABOR Refunds | \$0 | \$0 |
| Change in State FTE | 0.0 FTE | 0.0 FTE |

Table 1A State Transfers

| | Budget Year | Out Year |
|---------------------------|--------------------|------------|
| Fund Source | FY 2025-26 | FY 2026-27 |
| General Fund | -\$150,055,466 | \$0 |
| General Fund Exempt | -\$500,000 | \$0 |
| Marijuana Tax Cash Fund | -\$3,230,000 | \$0 |
| Capital Construction Fund | \$129,998,033 | \$0 |
| IT Capital Account | \$23,787,433 | \$0 |
| Net Transfer | \$0 | \$0 |

Table 1B State Diversions

| 5 16 | Budget Year | Out Year |
|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Fund Source | FY 2025-26 | FY 2026-27 |
| General Fund | \$12.5 million | \$12.5 million |
| Cash Funds | -\$12.5 million | -\$12.5 million |
| Net Diversions | \$0 | \$0 |

Summary of Legislation

The bill transfers \$154 million for capital construction and information technology projects in FY 2025-26.

Under current law, unappropriated money in the Capital Construction Fund, including the IT Capital Account, remains in the fund to be used for future construction or information technology projects. This typically occurs from interest earnings and reversions from underspent appropriations. Beginning with FY 2025-26, the bill directs these interest earnings and reversions to the General Fund.

State Transfers

Scheduled Transfers

The bill requires the following transfers on July 1, 2025:

- \$129,498,033 from the General Fund to the Capital Construction Fund;
- \$20,557,433 from the General Fund to the IT Capital Account of the Capital Construction Fund;

- \$3,230,000 from the Marijuana Tax Cash Fund to the IT Capital Account of the Capital Construction Fund; and
- \$500,000 from the General Fund Exempt Account to the Capital Construction Fund.

Future Transfers of Unspent Funds

In addition, the bill transfers any unappropriated, unencumbered balance in the Capital Construction Fund and the IT Capital Account to the General Fund at the end of each fiscal year. This amount varies from year to year and has not been estimated. For informational purposes, the average transfer for the last three fiscal years if this bill's requirements were in effect would have been about \$10 million.

Because these cash funds are primarily funded by a transfer from the General Fund, the current practice of keeping unspent money in the funds has the practical impact of reducing the amount transferred from the General Fund in the following fiscal year. Transferring this money to the General Fund will allow future General Fund transfers to the Capital Construction Fund and the IT Capital Account to align more closely with project funding amounts.

State Diversions

The bill diverts interest earned on the Capital Construction Fund and the IT Capital Account to the General Fund. This reduces revenue available in those funds and increases it by the same amount to the General Fund. The amount of interest revenue generated depends on interest rate and fund balance, which is affected by the timing of when capital expenditures occur from these funds. Based on interest earnings in recent years, about \$12.5 million per year will be diverted from the Capital Construction Fund and the IT Capital Account to the General Fund.

Effective Date

The bill takes effect upon signature of the Governor, or upon becoming law without his signature.

State and Local Government Contacts

Joint Budget Committee Staff