

**JBC Staff Fiscal Analysis**  
**House Appropriations Committee**

Concerning the regulation of mining activities, and, in connection therewith, creating a new permit type to facilitate the cleanup of abandoned mine waste piles, updating forfeiture and warranty procedures, ratifying Colorado's membership in the "Interstate Mining Compact" and the Interstate Mining Commission, and making an appropriation.

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**Prime Sponsors:**

Senators Simpson; Bridges

Representatives Martinez; McCormick

**Date Prepared:**

April 22, 2025

**JBC Analyst:**

Mitch Burmeister

303-866-3147

**Fiscal Impacts**

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Appropriation Already Added to Bill, No Amendment in Packet

TABOR Impact

**Fiscal Note Status**

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The most recent Legislative Council Staff Fiscal Note (attached) reflects the fiscal impact of the bill as of 01/16/25.

**No Change:** Attached LCS Fiscal Note accurately reflects the fiscal impact of the bill.

The Senate adopted committee amendments on second reading (04/11/25), however, Legislative Council Staff and JBC Staff agree that the amendments do not change the fiscal impact of the bill.

**Amendments in This Packet**

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None.

**Current Appropriations Clause in Bill**

The bill includes an appropriation clause that provides \$1,440 cash funds from the Mined Land Reclamation Fund to the Department of Natural Resources for FY 2025-26.

**Points to Consider**

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### **TABOR/Excess State Revenues Impact**

The March 2025 Office of State Planning and Budgeting (OSPB) revenue forecast projects a TABOR surplus liability of \$642.7 million for FY 2025-26 and \$775.8 million for FY 2026-27 to be refunded to taxpayers out of the General Fund. Legislation that increases non-exempt revenue (such as cash funds) will increase the TABOR refund from the General Fund.

The Joint Budget Committee has proposed a budget package for FY 2025-26 based on the March 2025 OSPB revenue forecast. The budget package includes \$18.2 million General Fund set aside for other legislation outside of the JBC budget package. This may be used for appropriations, transfers, or increases in TABOR refunds for FY 2025-26.

This bill is estimated to increase cash fund revenues by \$1,440 in FY 2025-26 and in FY 2026-27, which will reduce the available General Fund in each fiscal year by equal amounts. This bill increases the TABOR refund made out of the General Fund by \$1,440 for FY 2025-26, reducing the \$18.2 million General Fund set aside for FY 2025-26 by the same amount.