

**JBC Staff Fiscal Analysis**  
**Senate Appropriations Committee**

Concerning a reallocation of funding from the division of parks and wildlife for the reintroduction of gray wolves to the Colorado health insurance affordability enterprise, and, in connection therewith, reducing an appropriation.

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**Prime Sponsors:**

Senators Roberts; Catlin  
Representatives Lukens; Martinez

**Date Prepared:**

August 21, 2025

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**Fiscal Impacts**

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Appropriation Already Added to Bill, No Amendment in Packet

**Fiscal Note Status**

The most recent Legislative Council Staff Fiscal Note (attached) reflects the fiscal impact of the bill as of 08/21/25.

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

The Senate State, Veterans, and Military Affairs Committee Report (08/21/25) includes an amendment to the bill. Legislative Council Staff and Joint Budget Committee Staff agree that this amendment does not change the bill's fiscal impact.

**Amendments in This Packet**

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None.

**Current Appropriations Clause in Bill**

The bill contains an appropriations clause that reduces \$264,268 General Fund for the Division of Parks and Wildlife within the Department of Natural Resources for FY 2025-26.

**Points to Consider**

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The July 2025 revenue forecast updates from the Office of State Planning and Budgeting (OSPB) and Legislative Council Staff (LCS) anticipate that state revenues will fall short of the TABOR limit in FY 2025-

26. The update from OSPB projects that revenues will fall \$742.2 million below the TABOR limit in FY 2025-26 and then be \$411.4 million above the TABOR limit in FY 2026-27. Legislative Council Staff projects a shortfall of \$661.8 million below the TABOR limit in FY 2025-26 and a surplus of \$758.8 million above the TABOR limit in FY 2026-27. TABOR surpluses must be refunded to taxpayers out of the General Fund.

The required General Fund reserve for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026 is 15.0 percent of FY 2025-26 General Fund appropriations. Based on the July 2025 revenue forecast updates, both the OSPB and LCS anticipate the General Fund reserve will end the current fiscal year below the reserve requirement. OSPB anticipates a deficit of \$783.1 million and LCS anticipates a deficit of \$691.9 million below the statutory reserve requirement.

### **General Fund Impact**

Although this bill reduces appropriations, it has a net-neutral impact on the General Fund. The General Fund reduction is offset by a General Fund transfer to the Health Insurance Affordability Cash Fund which is an existing, continuously appropriated cash fund.