

SB20-217

JBC Staff Analysis

\$617,478 cash funds from the Highway Users Tax Fund to the Department of Public Safety for FY 2020-21. This provision also states that the appropriation is based on the assumption that the Department will require an additional 1.0 FTE implement the act. Additionally, \$95,940 is reappropriated to the Department of Law based on the assumption that the Department of Law will require an additional 0.5 FTE.

Points to Consider

Future Fiscal Impact

The Joint Budget Committee has proposed a budget package for FY 2020-21. The budget package bills reduce or eliminate some appropriations and transfers, and suspend or delay other appropriations and transfers. These bills also augment the amount of money available in the General Fund. Joint Budget Committee staff estimates that at least \$1.7 billion, and up to \$2.8 billion when federal CARES act funding is included, consist of one-time budget measures. Many of these changes apply for FY 2020-21 only, and thus require scheduled increases in General Fund appropriations and transfers in FY 2021-22 and subsequent fiscal years. These amounts represent the 'deficit' with which the Joint Budget Committee and General Assembly would begin balancing efforts in FY 2021-22 without an offsetting increase in forecasted revenue. This bill would not require a General Fund appropriation for FY 2020-21. However, it is projected to require General Fund appropriations of \$579,690 in FY 2021-22 and \$217,253 in FY 2022-23, further increasing the base General Fund commitment in those fiscal years. This further reduces the amount of General Fund available for appropriations and obligations by the same amount.

Further, the appropriation from the Highway Users Tax Fund is expected to increase from \$617,478 to \$1.9 million in FY 2021-21 and \$2.5 million in FY 2022-23.

Revenue Source

A portion of the Highway Users Tax Fund is appropriated to the Colorado State Patrol (CSP) for highway supervision. This amount is taken before the formula allocation of HUTF to the State Highway Fund, counties, and cities. Section 43-4-201 (3)(a)(I)(C), C.R.S., limits the annual growth of CSP HUTF appropriations to no more than 6.0 percent of the appropriation from the previous fiscal year, regardless of any increase or decrease in overall highway-related revenues. For FY 2020-21, the HUTF appropriations to the CSP increased by 0.7 percent, leaving \$8.8 million available within the 6.0 percent growth limit.