

**First Regular Session  
Seventy-third General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO**

**PREAMENDED**

*This Unofficial Version Includes Committee  
Amendments Not Yet Adopted on Second Reading*

LLS NO. 21-0998.01 Ed DeCecco x4216

**SENATE BILL 21-281**

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**SENATE SPONSORSHIP**

**Hansen and Rankin**, Moreno, Bridges, Holbert, Jaquez Lewis, Kirkmeyer, Simpson, Smallwood, Sonnenberg, Woodward

**HOUSE SPONSORSHIP**

**McCluskie and Ransom**, Herod

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**Senate Committees**

Finance  
Appropriations

**House Committees**

Appropriations

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**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

101 **CONCERNING SEVERANCE TAX REVENUE, AND, IN CONNECTION**  
102 **THEREWITH, MAKING AN APPROPRIATION.**

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**Bill Summary**

*(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <http://leg.colorado.gov/>.)*

**Joint Budget Committee. Section 2** of the bill requires metropolitan districts created after July 1, 2021, to annually pay the state an amount equal to the total of all severance tax ad valorem credits claimed for property taxes that are imposed by the metropolitan district. This money will be allocated like severance tax revenues.

**Section 3** requires the director of the office of state planning and

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.  
Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material to be added to existing statute.  
Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.

SENATE  
3rd Reading Unamended  
May 28, 2021

SENATE  
Amended 2nd Reading  
May 27, 2021

budgeting and the executive directors of the departments of revenue, natural resources, and local affairs, or their designees, to review and analyze the following elements of the state severance tax:

- Data collection;
- The tax structure;
- Tax expenditures; and
- The allocation of the tax revenues.

Based on this review and analysis, these persons are required to prepare written recommendations for any changes to the severance tax to the joint budget committee, to be submitted no later than January 1, 2022.

Currently, 50% of state severance tax revenues are deposited into the severance tax trust fund, which is then typically split between the severance tax perpetual base fund (perpetual base fund) and the severance tax operational fund (operational fund). Money in the operational fund is currently used for core departmental programs and, if there are sufficient available revenues, for transfers to funds that support natural resources and energy grant programs (grant program transfers).

**Sections 4 and 6** repeal the grant program transfers, with some, but not all, of the recipient programs receiving alternative funding from severance tax revenues. Subject to annual appropriation, **section 5** authorizes the Colorado water conservation board to direct the state treasurer to transfer money from the perpetual base fund to the following cash funds that previously received grant program transfers:

- The water supply reserve fund;
- The interbasin compact committee operation fund; and
- The water efficiency grant program cash fund.

The general assembly is also given the authority to directly appropriate or transfer money into the perpetual base fund and the water supply reserve fund.

If less than 100% of the money available in the operational fund is used for the current core programs, then, under section 4, the general assembly may also appropriate money from the operational fund to the following cash funds that previously received grant program transfers:

- The species conservation trust fund;
- The division of parks and wildlife aquatic nuisance species fund; and
- The conservation district grant fund.

The transfers from the operational fund are subject to the same limits that they had as grant program transfers. On July 1, 2021, and July 1, 2022, the state treasurer is required to transfer \$9,456,005, which is enough to fully fund the appropriations to these 3 cash funds for those fiscal years.

The operational fund reserve that was maintained for the grant program transfers is repealed and the remaining operational fund reserve is increased to be twice the current fiscal year's appropriations.

**Sections 7 to 13** are conforming amendments related to the repeal

of the grant program transfers, and in some instances, to reflect the new funding from severance tax revenues.

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1 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

2 **SECTION 1. Legislative declaration.** (1) The general assembly  
3 hereby finds and declares that:

4 (a) There is a tax credit allowed against the state severance tax on  
5 oil and gas that is equal to eighty-seven and one-half percent of the ad  
6 valorem taxes assessed or paid by a taxpayer;

7 (b) There has been a proliferation of metropolitan districts in  
8 recent years;

9 (c) The ad valorem credits that are a result of metropolitan  
10 districts' property taxes have significantly reduced the state's severance  
11 tax revenues, which reduces the allocations for impacted local  
12 communities and critical state programs; and

13 (d) This trend must be addressed.

14 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 32-1-1004, **add** (11)  
15 as follows:

16 **32-1-1004. Metropolitan districts - additional powers and**  
17 **duties.** (11) A METROPOLITAN DISTRICT CREATED ON OR AFTER JULY 1,  
18 2021, SHALL ANNUALLY PAY THE STATE AN AMOUNT EQUAL TO THE TOTAL  
19 OF ALL AD VALOREM CREDITS CLAIMED UNDER SECTION 39-29-105 (2)(b)  
20 FOR PROPERTY TAXES THAT ARE IMPOSED BY THE METROPOLITAN  
21 DISTRICT. THE STATE TREASURER SHALL CREDIT FIFTY PERCENT OF THE  
22 PAYMENT TO THE STATE SEVERANCE TAX TRUST FUND CREATED BY  
23 SECTION 39-29-109, AND FIFTY PERCENT TO THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT  
24 SEVERANCE TAX FUND CREATED BY SECTION 39-29-110, WITH THESE  
25 AMOUNTS FURTHER ALLOCATED IN THE SAME MANNER AS THE GROSS

1 RECEIPTS REALIZED FROM THE SEVERANCE TAXES IMPOSED ON MINERALS  
2 AND MINERAL FUELS UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF ARTICLE 27 OF TITLE 39.

3 **SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 39-29-108, **add** (6)  
4 as follows:

5 **39-29-108. Allocation of severance tax revenues - definitions**

6 **- repeal.** (6) (a) THE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF STATE PLANNING AND  
7 BUDGETING AND THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS OF THE DEPARTMENTS OF  
8 REVENUE, NATURAL RESOURCES, EDUCATION, AND LOCAL AFFAIRS, OR  
9 THEIR DESIGNEES, SHALL REVIEW AND ANALYZE THE FOLLOWING  
10 ELEMENTS OF THE STATE SEVERANCE TAX:

- 11 (I) DATA COLLECTION;
- 12 (II) THE TAX STRUCTURE;
- 13 (III) TAX EXPENDITURES;
- 14 (IV) TAXES PAID BY INDUSTRY TO SPECIAL DISTRICTS;
- 15 (V) TAX FILING AND PROCESS EFFICIENCIES; AND
- 16 (VI) THE ALLOCATION OF THE TAX REVENUES.

17 (b) THE PERSONS IDENTIFIED IN SUBSECTION (6)(a) SHALL  
18 ESTABLISH A STAKEHOLDER GROUP, CONSISTING OF AFFECTED INDUSTRIES  
19 AND PARTIES, INCLUDING LOCAL GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES, TO  
20 ASSIST THEIR REVIEW AND ANALYSIS.

21 (c) BASED ON THEIR REVIEW AND ANALYSIS, THE PERSONS  
22 IDENTIFIED IN SUBSECTION (6)(a) OF THIS SECTION SHALL PREPARE  
23 WRITTEN RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ANY CHANGES TO THE SEVERANCE TAX  
24 TO THE JOINT BUDGET COMMITTEE NO LATER THAN DECEMBER 15, 2021.  
25 PRIOR TO SUBMITTAL OF THE WRITTEN RECOMMENDATIONS, THE  
26 STAKEHOLDER GROUP SHALL HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO REVIEW THE  
27 DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS AND INDIVIDUAL STAKEHOLDERS MAY

1 PROVIDE COMMENTS IN RESPONSE TO THE RECOMMENDATIONS TO BE  
2 INCLUDED AS PART OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS.

3 (d) THIS SUBSECTION (6) IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2022.

4 **SECTION 4.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 39-29-109, **amend**  
5 (2)(a)(I.5), (2)(a)(II), and (2)(c)(I) introductory portion; and **add**  
6 (2)(a)(II.5) as follows:

7 **39-29-109. Severance tax trust fund - created - administration**  
8 **- distribution of money - legislative declaration.** (2) State severance  
9 tax receipts must be credited to the severance tax trust fund as provided  
10 in section 39-29-108. All income derived from the deposit and investment  
11 of the money in the fund must be credited to the fund. At the end of any  
12 fiscal year, all unexpended and unencumbered money in the fund remains  
13 in the fund and must not be credited or transferred to the general fund or  
14 any other fund. All money in the fund is subject to appropriation by the  
15 general assembly for the following purposes:

16 (a) **The severance tax perpetual base fund.** (I.5) There is  
17 hereby created in the state treasury the severance tax perpetual base fund,  
18 also referred to in this ~~paragraph (a)~~ SUBSECTION (2)(a) as the "fund",  
19 which the Colorado water conservation board, also referred to in this  
20 ~~paragraph (a)~~ SUBSECTION (2)(a) as the "board", shall administer. The  
21 state treasurer shall transfer ~~moneys~~ MONEY to the fund from the  
22 severance tax trust fund, as specified in this section. THE FUND ALSO  
23 INCLUDES ANY MONEY THAT THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY MAY APPROPRIATE  
24 OR TRANSFER THERETO. The ~~moneys~~ MONEY in the fund ~~are~~ IS  
25 continuously appropriated to the board for purposes authorized by this  
26 ~~paragraph (a)~~ SUBSECTION (2)(a).

27 (II) One-half of the severance tax receipts credited to the fund for

1 fiscal years commencing on or after July 1, 2009, shall be credited to the  
2 severance tax perpetual base fund and used ~~for state water projects~~  
3 ~~pursuant to sections 37-60-119 and 37-60-122, C.R.S.~~ AS SPECIFIED IN  
4 SUBSECTION (2)(a)(II.5) OF THIS SECTION; except that the total amount of  
5 severance tax receipts credited to the severance tax perpetual base fund  
6 during the fiscal year shall not exceed fifty million dollars unless the cap  
7 established in ~~subparagraph (H) of this paragraph (a)~~ SUBSECTION  
8 (2)(a)(III) OF THIS SECTION is exceeded. The authorization and contract  
9 for each project must require repayment of principal and interest to the  
10 fund, and ~~moneys so~~ MONEY repaid ~~shall be~~ IS credited to the severance  
11 tax perpetual base fund.

12 (II.5) THE BOARD SHALL USE THE MONEY IN THE FUND:

13 (A) FOR STATE WATER PROJECTS PURSUANT TO SECTIONS  
14 37-60-119 AND 37-60-122;

15 (B) TO DIRECT THE STATE TREASURER TO TRANSFER AMOUNTS TO  
16 THE WATER SUPPLY RESERVE FUND CREATED IN SUBSECTION (2)(c) OF THIS  
17 SECTION;

18 (C) TO DIRECT THE STATE TREASURER TO TRANSFER AMOUNTS TO  
19 THE INTERBASIN COMPACT COMMITTEE OPERATION FUND CREATED IN  
20 SECTION 37-75-107; AND

21 (D) TO DIRECT THE STATE TREASURER TO TRANSFER AMOUNTS TO  
22 THE WATER EFFICIENCY GRANT PROGRAM CASH FUND CREATED IN SECTION  
23 37-60-126 (12).

24 (c) **The water supply reserve fund.** (I) There is created in the  
25 office of the state treasurer the water supply reserve fund, referred to in  
26 this subsection (2)(c) as the "fund", administered by the Colorado water  
27 conservation board. The state treasurer shall transfer money to the fund

1 from the severance tax operational fund as specified in ~~section~~  
2 ~~39-29-109.3 (2)(a)~~ SUBSECTION (2)(a)(II.5)(B) OF THIS SECTION. THE  
3 FUND ALSO INCLUDES ANY OTHER MONEY THAT THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
4 MAY APPROPRIATE OR TRANSFER TO THE FUND. The money in the fund is  
5 continuously appropriated, for purposes authorized by this subsection  
6 (2)(c), to the Colorado water conservation board, referred to in this  
7 subsection (2)(c) as the "board". All interest derived from the investment  
8 of money in the fund must be credited to the statewide account of the  
9 fund, which account is hereby created. Repayments of both the principal  
10 and interest on loans from the fund must be credited to the fund. Any  
11 balance remaining in the fund at the end of any fiscal year remains in the  
12 fund. The board shall allocate money by grant or loan from the fund only  
13 for water activities approved by a roundtable pursuant to article 75 of title  
14 37. The approving roundtable is the roundtable for the basin in which a  
15 proposed water diversion or nonstructural activity would occur. If the  
16 applicant is a covered entity, as defined in section 37-60-126, the board  
17 shall allocate money by grant or loan from the fund only if the applicant  
18 has adopted a water conservation plan, as defined in section 37-60-126.  
19 The board, in consultation with the interbasin compact committee created  
20 in section 37-75-105, shall establish criteria and guidelines for allocating  
21 money from the fund, including criteria that ensure that the allocations  
22 will assist in meeting water supply needs identified pursuant to section  
23 37-75-104 (2)(c), in a manner consistent with section 37-75-102, and  
24 facilitate both structural and nonstructural projects or methods. Eligible  
25 water activities include:

26 **SECTION 5.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 39-29-109.3, **amend**  
27 (1) introductory portion, (3)(a), and (3.5)(b); **repeal** (2), (3.5)(a), (7), and

1 (8); and **add** (1)(g) and (1.5) as follows:

2 **39-29-109.3. Severance tax operational fund - core reserve -**  
3 **grant program reserve - definitions - repeal.** (1) ~~For fiscal years~~  
4 ~~commencing on and after July 1, 1997,~~ The executive director of the  
5 department of natural resources shall submit with the department's budget  
6 request for each fiscal year a list and description of the programs the  
7 executive director recommends to be funded from the severance tax  
8 operational fund created in section 39-29-109 (2)(b), referred to in this  
9 section as the "operational fund". The general assembly may appropriate  
10 money from the total money available in the operational fund to fund  
11 recommended programs as follows:

12 (g) IF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY APPROPRIATES LESS THAN ONE  
13 HUNDRED PERCENT OF THE MONEY AVAILABLE IN THE OPERATIONAL FUND  
14 FOR THE PURPOSES SET FORTH IN SUBSECTIONS (1)(a) TO (1)(f) OF THIS  
15 SECTION, THEN THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY MAY ADDITIONALLY  
16 APPROPRIATE:

17 (I) UP TO FIVE MILLION DOLLARS TO THE SPECIES CONSERVATION  
18 TRUST FUND CREATED IN SECTION 24-33-111 (2)(a);

19 (II) UP TO FOUR MILLION SIX THOUSAND FIVE DOLLARS FROM THE  
20 OPERATIONAL FUND TO THE DIVISION OF PARKS AND WILDLIFE AQUATIC  
21 NUISANCE SPECIES FUND CREATED IN SECTION 33-10.5-108 (1); AND

22 (III) UP TO FOUR HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS TO THE  
23 CONSERVATION DISTRICT GRANT FUND CREATED IN SECTION 35-1-106.7.

24 (1.5) ON **JUNE 30, 2021**, AND JULY 1, 2022, THE STATE TREASURER  
25 SHALL TRANSFER NINE MILLION FOUR HUNDRED FIFTY-SIX THOUSAND FIVE  
26 DOLLARS FROM THE GENERAL FUND TO THE OPERATIONAL FUND.

27 (2) ~~Subject to the requirements of subsections (3) and (3.5) of this~~



1 section, if the general assembly chooses not to spend up to one hundred  
2 percent of the money in the operational fund on core departmental  
3 programs, the state treasurer shall transfer the following amounts:

4 (a) (I) ~~To the water supply reserve fund created in section~~  
5 ~~39-29-109 (2)(c), the following amounts:~~

6 (A) to (D) ~~Repealed.~~

7 (E) ~~For each state fiscal year commencing on or after July 1, 2012,~~  
8 ~~ten million dollars.~~

9 (H) ~~(Deleted by amendment, L. 2009, (SB 09-106), ch. 386, p.~~  
10 ~~2090, § 2, effective July 1, 2009.)~~

11 (b) ~~To fund the conservation district grant fund created in section~~  
12 ~~35-1-106.7, C.R.S., for soil and water conservation, the following~~  
13 ~~amounts:~~

14 (I) to (III) ~~Repealed.~~

15 (IV) (A) ~~For the state fiscal year commencing July 1, 2011,~~  
16 ~~through the state fiscal year commencing on July 1, 2021, four hundred~~  
17 ~~fifty thousand dollars.~~

18 (B) ~~This subparagraph (IV) is repealed, effective July 1, 2023.~~

19 (c) and (d) ~~Repealed.~~

20 (e) ~~To the species conservation trust fund created in section~~  
21 ~~24-33-111 (2)(a), the following amounts:~~

22 (I) to (XI) ~~Repealed.~~

23 (XII) (A) ~~For the state fiscal year commencing July 1, 2019, and~~  
24 ~~for each fiscal year thereafter through the state fiscal year commencing~~  
25 ~~July 1, 2023, five million dollars.~~

26 (B) ~~This subsection (2)(c)(XII) is repealed, effective July 1, 2025.~~

27 (f) ~~For providing energy-related assistance to low-income~~

1 households as specified in section ~~40-8.7-112~~;

2 (I) to (IV) ~~Repealed~~.

3 (V) (A) ~~For the state fiscal year commencing July 1, 2012, and~~  
4 ~~each state fiscal year thereafter, through the state fiscal year commencing~~  
5 ~~July 1, 2023, thirteen million dollars as follows: Twenty-five percent to~~  
6 ~~the department of human services low-income energy assistance fund~~  
7 ~~created in section 40-8.7-112 (1); twenty-five percent to the energy~~  
8 ~~outreach Colorado low-income energy assistance fund created in section~~  
9 ~~40-8.7-112 (2)(a); and fifty percent to the Colorado energy office~~  
10 ~~low-income energy assistance fund created in section 40-8.7-112 (3)(a).~~

11 (B) ~~This subsection (2)(f)(V) is repealed, effective July 1, 2025.~~

12 (g) and (h) ~~Repealed~~.

13 (i) ~~To the interbasin compact committee operation fund created in~~  
14 ~~section 37-75-107, C.R.S., the following amounts:~~

15 (I) ~~Repealed~~.

16 (II) ~~For the state fiscal year commencing July 1, 2009, and for~~  
17 ~~each state fiscal year thereafter, seven hundred forty-five thousand~~  
18 ~~sixty-seven dollars.~~

19 (j) ~~Repealed~~.

20 (k) (I) ~~For seven state fiscal years, beginning with the state fiscal~~  
21 ~~year commencing on July 1, 2017, one million fifty thousand dollars per~~  
22 ~~year to the forest restoration and wildfire risk mitigation grant program~~  
23 ~~cash fund created in section 23-31-310 (8.5).~~

24 (II) ~~This subsection (2)(k) is repealed, effective September 1,~~  
25 ~~2023.~~

26 (l) ~~Repealed~~.

27 (m) ~~For the mitigation of aquatic nuisance species as specified in~~

1 article 10.5 of title 33:

2 (I) Repealed:

3 (H) For the state fiscal year commencing July 1, 2009, and every  
4 state fiscal year thereafter, four million six thousand five dollars to the  
5 division of parks and wildlife aquatic nuisance species fund created in  
6 section 33-10.5-108 (1):

7 (n)(I) For seven fiscal years commencing on or after July 1, 2017,  
8 the state treasurer shall transfer:

9 (A) One million three hundred five thousand dollars to the healthy  
10 forests and vibrant communities fund created in section 23-31-313 (10);

11 (B) Fifty thousand dollars to the wildland-urban interface training  
12 fund created in section 24-33.5-1212 (5);

13 (C) Ninety-five thousand dollars to the wildfire preparedness fund  
14 created in section 24-33.5-1227 (1):

15 (H) This subsection (2)(n) is repealed, effective September 1,  
16 2023:

17 (o) and (p) Repealed:

18 (q) For the state fiscal year commencing July 1, 2015, one million  
19 dollars to the Colorado water conservation board construction fund,  
20 created in section 37-60-121 (1)(a), C.R.S., for the Colorado water  
21 conservation board to continue to provide planning and engineering  
22 studies, including implementation measures, to address: Technical needs  
23 for watershed restoration and flood mitigation projects throughout the  
24 state; aquatic habitat protection; flexible operations for multiple uses;  
25 restoration work; quantification of environmental flow needs; and  
26 monitoring efforts to support watershed health goals outlined in the  
27 Colorado water plan. The money remains available for the designated

1 purposes until June 30, 2019, at which time any unused money will revert  
2 to the operational fund.

3 ~~(r) For the state fiscal year commencing July 1, 2015, one million~~  
4 ~~two hundred thousand dollars to the Colorado water conservation board~~  
5 ~~construction fund, created in section 37-60-121 (1)(a), C.R.S., for the~~  
6 ~~Colorado water conservation board to participate in the development of~~  
7 ~~modern tools and methods for determining large rain events for regulating~~  
8 ~~and designing dam spillways in the state. The money remains available~~  
9 ~~for the designated purposes until June 30, 2019, at which time any unused~~  
10 ~~money will revert to the operational fund.~~

11 ~~(s) Repealed.~~

12 (3) (a) ~~(f)~~ It is the intent of the general assembly that the  
13 operational fund maintain a reserve equal to TWO TIMES the current state  
14 fiscal year's operating appropriations for the core departmental programs,  
15 which reserve is referred to in this section as the "core reserve" MADE  
16 FROM THE OPERATIONAL FUND, BUT if severance tax revenues are less than  
17 anticipated, then money in the core reserve is available to support the core  
18 departmental programs, but the core reserve is not available for the  
19 transfers to the natural resources and energy grant programs TO BE USED  
20 FOR EXPENDITURES AUTHORIZED BY THE APPROPRIATIONS.

21 ~~(H) It is the intent of the general assembly that the operational~~  
22 ~~fund maintain a second reserve that is equal to the maximum amount of~~  
23 ~~the transfers to the natural resources and energy grant programs under this~~  
24 ~~section, which reserve is referred to in this section as the "grant program~~  
25 ~~reserve". Money in the grant program reserve may be used to offset~~  
26 ~~temporary revenue reductions in the core departmental programs and for~~  
27 ~~transfers to natural resources and energy grant programs; except that, if~~

1 the general assembly determines that transfers from the grant program  
2 reserve are needed during a state revenue crisis, the transfers shall be a  
3 loan from the grant program reserve to be repaid as soon as money is  
4 available.

5 (HH) The reserves created in this subsection (3) are intended to  
6 mitigate the impact of fluctuations in the amount of revenue credited to  
7 the fund from year to year so as to maintain current levels of service for  
8 the core departmental programs and the natural resources and energy  
9 grant programs.

10 (3.5) (a) If, at the end of a fiscal year, the core reserve requirement  
11 is fully satisfied, then, on August 15 following the end of the fiscal year,  
12 the state treasurer shall make the transfers to the natural resources and  
13 energy grant programs in the amounts specified in subsection (2) of this  
14 section. If necessary, the state treasurer may use money in the grant  
15 program reserve to supplement the money otherwise available to make the  
16 transfers. If there is insufficient money in the operational fund for the full  
17 transfers specified in subsection (2) of this section, then the state treasurer  
18 shall proportionally reduce the transfers.

19 (b) If the grant program reserve requirement is fully satisfied and  
20 there is still money in the operational fund as of the end of the fiscal year,  
21 AT THE END OF A FISCAL YEAR THE RESERVE FOR THE OPERATIONAL FUND  
22 SPECIFIED IN SUBSECTION (3)(a)(I) OF THIS SECTION IS FULL, then, on  
23 August 15 following the end of the fiscal year, the state treasurer shall  
24 transfer the remainder to the severance tax perpetual base fund created in  
25 section 39-29-109 (2)(a).

26 (7) The state treasurer shall transfer the following amounts from  
27 the general fund to the operational fund:

1           ~~(a) On July 1, 2018, seventeen million thirty thousand nine~~  
2 ~~hundred twenty-five dollars;~~

3           ~~(b) On January 1, 2019, three million dollars; and~~

4           ~~(c) On July 1, 2019, an amount equal to the core reserve for the~~  
5 ~~operating appropriations for the fiscal year commencing on July 1, 2019;~~  
6 ~~for the programs specified in subsection (1) of this section or fourteen~~  
7 ~~million two hundred fourteen thousand eight hundred fifty-four dollars;~~  
8 ~~whichever amount is less.~~

9           (8) As used in this section:

10           (a) "Core departmental programs" means the programs specified  
11 in subsection (1) of this section.

12           (b) "Transfers to the natural resources and energy grant programs"  
13 means the transfers specified in subsection (2) of this section.

14           **SECTION 6.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 39-29-109.3, **repeal**  
15 **as recreated and reenacted, with amendments, by Senate Bill 21-189**  
16 (2)(c) as follows:

17           **39-29-109.3. Severance tax operational fund - core reserve -**  
18 **grant program reserve - definitions - repeal.** (2) Subject to the  
19 requirements of subsections (3) and (3.5) of this section, if the general  
20 assembly chooses not to spend up to one hundred percent of the money  
21 in the operational fund on core departmental programs, the state treasurer  
22 shall transfer the following amounts:

23           ~~(c) To the water efficiency grant program cash fund created in~~  
24 ~~section 37-60-126 (12), for use in accordance with that section, on July~~  
25 ~~1 of each state fiscal year commencing on or after July 1, 2020, five~~  
26 ~~hundred fifty thousand dollars. Money transferred pursuant to this~~  
27 ~~subsection (2)(c) is in addition to, and does not replace, any money~~

1 appropriated to the Colorado water conservation board pursuant to  
2 subsection (1)(d) of this section. This subsection (2)(c) is repealed,  
3 effective July 1, 2030.

4 **SECTION 7.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 39-29-109.3, **repeal**  
5 **as added by House Bill 21-1242 (2)(t)** as follows:

6 **39-29-109.3. Severance tax operational fund - core reserve -**  
7 **grant program reserve - definitions - repeal.** (2) Subject to the  
8 requirements of subsections (3) and (3.5) of this section, if the general  
9 assembly chooses not to spend up to one hundred percent of the money  
10 in the operational fund on core departmental programs, the state treasurer  
11 shall transfer the following amounts:

12 (t) For each state fiscal year commencing on or after July 1, 2021,  
13 through July 1, 2029, five hundred thousand dollars per year to the  
14 agriculture value-added cash fund created in section 35-75-205 (1).

15 **SECTION 8.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 23-31-310, **amend**  
16 (8.5)(a)(I) as follows:

17 **23-31-310. Forest restoration and wildfire risk mitigation**  
18 **grant program - technical advisory panel - legislative declaration -**  
19 **definitions - repeal.** (8.5) **Forest restoration and wildfire risk**  
20 **mitigation grant program cash fund.** (a) There is hereby created in the  
21 state treasury the forest restoration and wildfire risk mitigation grant  
22 program cash fund. The department of higher education shall administer  
23 the fund, which consists of:

24 (I) All money transferred by the treasurer as specified in **section**  
25 **39-29-109.3 (2)(k)** and subsection (8.7) of this section;

26 **SECTION 9.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 23-31-313, **amend**  
27 (10)(a)(I) and (10)(c) introductory portion as follows:

1           **23-31-313. Healthy forests - vibrant communities - funds**  
2 **created - repeal. (10) Healthy forests and vibrant communities**  
3 **fund.** (a) (I) There is hereby created in the state treasury the healthy  
4 forests and vibrant communities fund. The fund consists of all money that  
5 may be appropriated thereto by the general assembly AND all private and  
6 public money received through gifts, grants, reimbursements, or  
7 donations that are transmitted to the state treasurer and credited to the  
8 fund. ~~and all money transferred to the fund pursuant to section~~  
9 ~~39-29-109.3 (2)(n) and subsection (10)(a)(II) of this section.~~ All interest  
10 earned from the investment of money in the fund is credited to the fund.  
11 The money in the fund is hereby continuously appropriated for the  
12 purposes specified in this subsection (10) and remains available until  
13 expended. Any money not expended at the end of the fiscal year shall  
14 remain in the fund and shall not be transferred to or revert to the general  
15 fund.

16           (c) Of the money transferred to the fund pursuant to section  
17 39-29-109.3 (2)(n) PRIOR TO ITS REPEAL:

18           **SECTION 10.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-33-111, **amend**  
19 **(2)(a)(I)(A)** as follows:

20           **24-33-111. Conservation of native species - fund created.**  
21 **(2) Species conservation trust fund - creation.** (a) (I) (A) There is  
22 hereby created in the state treasury the species conservation trust fund,  
23 which is subject to annual authorization by the general assembly to carry  
24 out the purposes of this section. The fund consists of all money  
25 transferred by the treasurer as specified in ~~section 39-29-109.3 (2)(c) and~~  
26 ~~subsection (2)(a)(I)(B) of this section~~ AND ALL MONEY APPROPRIATED TO  
27 THE FUND PURSUANT TO SECTION 39-29-109 (1)(g)(I)(A). All income



1 derived from the deposit and investment of money in the fund is credited  
2 to the fund. At the end of any fiscal year, all unexpended money in the  
3 fund remains in the fund and shall not be credited or transferred to the  
4 general fund or any other fund. To the maximum extent practical, only  
5 interest from the fund shall be expended for activities pursuant to this  
6 section.

7 **SECTION 11.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-33.5-1227,  
8 **amend** (1)(a)(I), (1)(b), and (1)(c)(II) introductory portion as follows:

9 **24-33.5-1227. Wildfire preparedness fund - creation - gifts,**  
10 **grants, and donations authorized - wildfire preparedness plan -**  
11 **report.** (1) (a) (I) There is hereby created in the state treasury the  
12 wildfire preparedness fund. The fund consists of all money that may be  
13 appropriated thereto by the general assembly, all private and public  
14 money received through gifts, grants, reimbursements, or donations that  
15 are transmitted to the state treasurer and credited to the fund, all money  
16 transferred to the fund from the healthy forests and vibrant communities  
17 fund created in section 23-31-313 (10), ~~money transferred pursuant to~~  
18 ~~section 39-29-109.3 (2)(n)(I)(C)~~, and money transferred pursuant to  
19 subsection (1)(a)(II) of this section. All interest earned from the  
20 investment of money in the fund shall be credited to the fund. The money  
21 in the fund is hereby continuously appropriated for the purposes indicated  
22 in this section. Any money not expended at the end of the fiscal year shall  
23 remain in the fund and shall not be transferred to or revert to the general  
24 fund.

25 (b) By executive order or proclamation, the governor may access  
26 and designate ~~moneys~~ MONEY in the wildfire preparedness fund for  
27 wildfire preparedness activities; except that ~~moneys~~ MONEY in the

1 wildfire preparedness fund that ~~have~~ HAS been transferred from the  
2 healthy forests and vibrant communities fund created in section  
3 23-31-313 (10) C.R.S., and moneys transferred pursuant to section  
4 ~~39-29-109.3 (2)(n)(I)(C)~~, C.R.S., may be used only for the purposes set  
5 forth in ~~subparagraph (H) of paragraph (c) of this subsection (1)~~  
6 SUBSECTION (1)(c)(II) OF THIS SECTION. The division shall implement the  
7 directives set forth in such executive order or proclamation. As soon as  
8 practicable after issuing the executive order or proclamation, the governor  
9 shall notify the joint budget committee of any ~~moneys~~ MONEY so accessed  
10 and designated.

11 (c) (II) The division shall use ~~moneys~~ MONEY in the wildfire  
12 preparedness fund transferred from the healthy forests and vibrant  
13 communities fund created in section 23-31-313 (10) C.R.S., and moneys  
14 ~~transferred pursuant to section 39-29-109.3 (2)(n)(I)(C)~~, C.R.S., to:

15 **SECTION 12.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 33-10.5-108,  
16 **amend** (1)(a)(I) as follows:

17 **33-10.5-108. Division of parks and wildlife aquatic nuisance**  
18 **species fund - creation.** (1) (a) (I) There is hereby created in the state  
19 treasury the division of parks and wildlife aquatic nuisance species fund,  
20 also referred to in this section as the "fund", which shall be administered  
21 by the division. The fund consists of all money transferred by the state  
22 treasurer as specified in sections ~~39-29-109.3 (2)(m)~~, ~~39-29-109.3~~  
23 ~~(1)(g)(II)~~, 33-10.5-104.5, and 33-10.5-105. All money in the fund is  
24 continuously appropriated to the division for the purpose of implementing  
25 this article 10.5. All money in the fund at the end of each fiscal year  
26 remains in the fund and does not revert to the general fund or any other  
27 fund.

1           **SECTION 13.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 35-1-106.7, **amend**  
2 (1) as follows:

3           **35-1-106.7. Conservation district grant fund - repeal.**

4 (1) There is hereby created in the state treasury the conservation district  
5 grant fund. The fund ~~shall consist~~ CONSISTS of ~~moneys transferred~~ MONEY  
6 APPROPRIATED TO THE FUND pursuant to ~~section 39-29-109.3 (2)(b),~~  
7 ~~C.R.S. Moneys~~ SECTION 39-29-109.3 (1)(g)(III)(A). MONEY in the fund  
8 ~~are~~ IS specifically and continuously appropriated to the department. The  
9 department shall grant ~~moneys~~ MONEY in the fund to conservation  
10 districts for the purpose of implementing and maintaining soil and water  
11 conservation efforts. All ~~moneys~~ MONEY credited to the fund and all  
12 interest earned on the investment of ~~moneys~~ MONEY in the fund ~~shall be~~  
13 ~~a~~ IS part of the fund and shall not be transferred or credited to the general  
14 fund or to any other fund.

15           **SECTION 14.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 37-75-107, **amend**  
16 (1) as follows:

17           **37-75-107. Interbasin compact committee operation fund -**

18 **creation.** (1) There is hereby created in the state treasury the interbasin  
19 compact committee operation fund, which shall be administered by the  
20 Colorado water conservation board and ~~shall consist~~ CONSISTS of all  
21 money transferred by the treasurer as specified in ~~section 39-29-109.3~~  
22 ~~(2)(i)~~ SECTION 39-29-109 (2)(a)(II.5)(C). All money in the fund is  
23 continuously appropriated to the Colorado water conservation board for  
24 the purposes stated in this article 75. All money in the fund at the end of  
25 each fiscal year shall be retained in the fund and shall not revert to the  
26 general fund or any other fund.

27           **SECTION 15. Appropriation.** (1) For the 2021-22 state fiscal

1 year, \$5,000,000 is appropriated to the species conservation trust fund  
2 created in section 24-33-111 (2)(a)(I)(A), C.R.S. This appropriation is  
3 from the severance tax operational fund created in section 39-29-109  
4 (2)(b), C.R.S. The department of natural resources is responsible for the  
5 accounting related to this appropriation.

6 (2) For the 2021-22 state fiscal year, \$4,006,005 is appropriated  
7 to the division of parks and wildlife aquatic nuisance species fund created  
8 in section 33-10.5-108 (1)(a)(I), C.R.S. This appropriation is from the  
9 severance tax operational fund created in section 39-29-109 (2)(b), C.R.S.  
10 The department of natural resources is responsible for the accounting  
11 related to this appropriation.

12 (3) For the 2021-22 state fiscal year, \$450,000 is appropriated to  
13 the conservation district grant fund created in section 35-1-106.7 (1),  
14 C.R.S. This appropriation is from the severance tax operational fund  
15 created in section 39-29-109 (2)(b), C.R.S. The department of agriculture  
16 is responsible for the accounting related to this appropriation.

17 **SECTION 16. Effective date.** This act takes effect July 1, 2021;  
18 except that section 6 of this act takes effect only if Senate Bill 21-189  
19 becomes law, in which case section 6 takes effect on the effective date of  
20 this act or Senate Bill 21-189, whichever is later, and section 7 of this act  
21 takes effect only if House Bill 21-1242 becomes law, in which case  
22 section 7 takes effect on the effective date of this act or House Bill  
23 21-1242, whichever is later.

24 **SECTION 17. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds,  
25 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate  
26 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety.