

**JBC STAFF FISCAL ANALYSIS
HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE**

CONCERNING METHODS TO INCREASE THE USE OF TRANSIT.

Prime Sponsors: Sens. Priola and Winter F.
Reps. Vigil and Marvin

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Appropriation Items of Note

Appropriation Not Required , No Amendment in Packet

New Cash Fund (with Continuous Appropriation)

Fiscal Impact of Bill as Amended to Date

The most recent Legislative Council Staff Revised Fiscal Note (attached) reflects the fiscal impact of the bill as of 05/01/24.

	No Change: Attached LCS Fiscal Note accurately reflects the fiscal impact of the bill
	Update: Fiscal impact has changed due to <i>new information or technical issues</i>
XXX	Update: Fiscal impact has changed due to <i>amendment adopted</i> after LCS Fiscal Note was prepared
	Non-Concurrence: JBC Staff and Legislative Council Staff disagree about the fiscal impact of the bill

The House Finance Committee Report (05/03/24) includes amendments to the bill which eliminate the General Fund revenue and TABOR impact of the bill, and also make other technical changes to the bill. Legislative Council Staff and JBC Staff agree on the fiscal impact of the amended bill.

Amendments in This Packet for Consideration by Appropriations Committee

Amendment	Description
None.	

Current Appropriations Clause in Bill

The bill neither requires nor contains an appropriation clause for FY 2024-25.

Points to Consider

Legislative Appropriation Authority

Continuous spending authority, also known as **continuous appropriation**, allows state agencies to spend money for statutorily specified purposes up to the total amount available in a specified fund

source without seeking further legislative approval through the budget process.

The term *appropriation* is broadly understood as expressing or conveying legal spending authority. However, the term *appropriation* also inherently expresses fundamental legislative fiscal authority by communicating a *limit* on or maximum amount of spending from a specified fund source for a defined period such as a fiscal year. While continuous spending authority also expresses or conveys legal spending authority it does so by eliminating legislative fiscal authority and oversight.

An annual appropriation provides a limit on spending authority, while a continuous appropriation provides unlimited spending authority. This method of funding moves these expenditures off-budget, and thus expenditures are not reported or accounted for through the budget process.

Is it necessary for the Colorado Energy Office to **not** seek annual authority from the General Assembly to spend money from the Zero Fare Transit Fund?