



HB22-1316

LONG TITLE: Concerning the funding of Colorado water conservation board projects, and, in connection therewith, making an appropriation.

SHORT TITLE: Colorado Water Conservation Board Construction Fund Project

COMMITTEES: House Agriculture, Livestock & Water Committee

SPONSORS: Representatives McCormick and Catlin/Senators Donovan and Simpson

PURPOSE OF THE BILL: To appropriate money for the projects approved by the Colorado Water Conservation Board

PROPONENTS OF THE BILL: Dept. of Natural Resources

POTENTIAL STAKEHOLDERS: Water providers and developers, others who have applied for funding from the program.

BACKGROUND: The Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB) Water Project Loan Program provides low-interest loans for the design and construction of agricultural, municipal and hydro projects in Colorado. A minimum loan request of \$100,000 is recommended. The standard loan term is 30 years. Rates are reduced by 0.25% for 20-year loans, and by 0.55% for 10-year loans. Rates are increased by 0.25% for 40-year loans

Projects financed by the Water Project Loan Program must align with the goals identified in Colorado's Water Plan and its measurable objectives.

Is this bill necessary this year? This is an ongoing program that must be appropriated annually depending on available funding.

How does the bill change current law? The amount changes from year to year as does the allocation to various projects. The bill appropriates the following amounts from the Colorado water conservation board (CWCB) construction fund to the CWCB or the division of water resources in the department of natural resources for the following projects:

- Continuation of the satellite monitoring system, \$380,000 (section 1);
- Continuation of the Colorado floodplain map modernization program, \$500,000 (section 2);
- Continuation of the weather modification permitting program, \$350,000 (section 3)
- Continuation of technical assistance for federal cost-share programs, \$300,000 (section 4);
- Continuation of the Arkansas river decision support system, \$500,000 (section 6);
- Continuation of the Colorado Mesonet project, \$150,000 (section 7);
- Continuation of the water forecasting partnership project, \$450,000 (section 8); ! Support of modeling and data analyses for the upper Colorado river commission's interstate planning and negotiation efforts, \$200,000 (section 9);

- Performance of comprehensive dam safety evaluations for the reservoir enlargement assessment project, \$250,000 (section 11)
- Support of the Platte river recovery implementation program, \$3,800,000 (section 12); and
- Support of Republican river matters related to meeting compact compliance obligations, \$2,000,000 (section 13)

The bill appropriates \$8,200,000 from the water plan implementation cash fund to the CWCB for grant-making for projects that assist in implementing the state water plan (section 15).

Does the bill affect the prior appropriations system? No.

How is the bill implemented? It appears to be self-executing

Practical Considerations

Fiscal Impact