



GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF  
BUDGET AND PROGRAM PLANNING

## Fiscal Note 2027 Biennium

Bill#/Title: **HB0069: Revise hard rock and rock products mining fees**

Primary Sponsor: **Steve Gist**

Status: **As Introduced**

☐ Included in the Executive Budget

☒ Needs to be included in HB 2

☐ Significant Local Gov Impact

☐ Significant Long-Term Impacts

☐ Technical Concerns

☐ Dedicated Revenue Form Attached

### **FISCAL SUMMARY**

	<b><u>FY 2026 Difference</u></b>	<b><u>FY 2027 Difference</u></b>	<b><u>FY 2028 Difference</u></b>	<b><u>FY 2029 Difference</u></b>
<b>Expenditures</b>				
State Special Revenue (02)	\$158,750	\$169,000	\$179,250	\$189,500
<b>Revenues</b>				
State Special Revenue (02)	\$158,750	\$169,000	\$179,250	\$189,500
<b>Net Impact</b>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>
<b>General Fund Balance</b>				

### **Description of fiscal impact**

HB 69 establishes a fee structure to support the Department of Environmental Quality's (DEQ) implementation of the Metal Mine Reclamation Act (MMRA). The bill also redirects fees from the Environmental Rehabilitation and Response Account (ERRA) to the new state special revenue account. Annual fees for rock products will be phased in over 4 years, while all others will apply upon passage.

### **FISCAL ANALYSIS**

#### **Assumptions**

#### **Department of Environmental Quality**

1. The bill requires 100% of the fee revenue collected to be deposited in a state special revenue fund established by 17-2-102, MCA, known as Hard Rock Mining Fees.
2. Existing FTE and processes will be used to implement the provisions of the bill.
3. Revenue will be used to support 1.25 FTE (Environmental Science Specialist).
4. The number of permit applications for hard rock mining activities would remain consistent with the number of applications received in previous years. Table I details the revenue by source:
- 5.

	Rock Product Annual Fees	Rock Product Application Fees	Non-Rock Products Annual Fees	Non-Rock Products Application Fees	Total
FY 26	\$ 10,250	\$ 1,000	\$ 121,750	\$ 25,750	\$ 158,750

**Fiscal Note Request - As Introduced**
*(continued)*

FY 27	\$ 20,500	\$ 1,000	\$ 121,750	\$ 25,750	\$ <b>169,000</b>
FY28	\$ 30,750	\$ 1,000	\$ 121,750	\$ 25,750	\$ <b>179,250</b>
FY29	\$ 41,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 121,750	\$ 25,750	\$ <b>189,500</b>

6. The extent of "bonded for permit disturbance" acres would remain the same as in previous years.
7. Non-rock products annual fees include non-rock products annual operating permit fees, exploration license annual fees, and Small Miner Exclusion Statement annual fees.

**Fiscal Analysis Table**
**Department of Environmental Quality**

	<b>FY 2026 Difference</b>	<b>FY 2027 Difference</b>	<b>FY 2028 Difference</b>	<b>FY 2029 Difference</b>
<b><u>Fiscal Impact</u></b>				
FTE	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.25
<b>TOTAL Fiscal Impact</b>	<b>1.25</b>	<b>1.25</b>	<b>1.25</b>	<b>1.25</b>
<b><u>Expenditures</u></b>				
Personal Services	\$122,321	\$123,638	\$126,528	\$128,620
Operating Expenses	\$36,429	\$45,362	\$52,722	\$60,880
<b>TOTAL Expenditures</b>	<b>\$158,750</b>	<b>\$169,000</b>	<b>\$179,250</b>	<b>\$189,500</b>
<b><u>Funding of Expenditures</u></b>				
State Special Revenue (02)	\$158,750	\$169,000	\$179,250	\$189,500
<b>TOTAL Funding of Expenditures</b>	<b>\$158,750</b>	<b>\$169,000</b>	<b>\$179,250</b>	<b>\$189,500</b>
<b><u>Revenues</u></b>				
State Special Revenue (02)	\$158,750	\$169,000	\$179,250	\$189,500
<b>TOTAL Revenues</b>	<b>\$158,750</b>	<b>\$169,000</b>	<b>\$179,250</b>	<b>\$189,500</b>
<b><u>Net Impact to Fund Balance (Revenue minus Funding of Expenditures)</u></b>				
State Special Revenue (02)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

  
 Sponsor's Initials

 1-7-25  
 Date

  
 Budget Director's Initials

 1/7/2025  
 Date