



GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF
BUDGET AND PROGRAM PLANNING

Fiscal Note 2023 Biennium

Bill # SB0029

Title: Revise weather modification and control laws

Primary Sponsor: Gillespie, Bruce

Status: As Amended in Senate Committee

- Significant Local Gov Impact
 Needs to be included in HB 2
 Technical Concerns
 Included in the Executive Budget
 Significant Long-Term Impacts
 Dedicated Revenue Form Attached

FISCAL SUMMARY

	<u>FY 2022</u> <u>Difference</u>	<u>FY 2023</u> <u>Difference</u>	<u>FY 2024</u> <u>Difference</u>	<u>FY 2025</u> <u>Difference</u>
Expenditures:				
General Fund	\$86,546	\$83,746	\$85,002	\$86,277
State Special Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Revenue:				
General Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
State Special Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Net Impact-General Fund Balance:	<u>(\$86,546)</u>	<u>(\$83,746)</u>	<u>(\$85,002)</u>	<u>(\$86,277)</u>

Description of fiscal impact: The Department of Natural Resources and Conservation will establish a Weather Modification Program in the Water Resources Division. Establishment of the program will require a 1.00 FTE project manager staff position.

FISCAL ANALYSIS

Assumptions:

- The department will only administer the program and monitor weather modification activities of the permittee. The fiscal note would be significantly higher if the agency were required to conduct additional weather modification activities or contribute to the operation of a weather modification project.
- The department will hire 1.00 FTE project manager staff position to implement and administer the weather modification program including, but not limited to, any necessary rulemaking, application review, managing the MEPA process, and conducting annual review of licensed weather modification activities in the state.

3. The operating costs will cover the general operating expenses, implementation, and administration of the weather modification program including, but not limited to, information technology, supplies and materials, rent, communication, and travel.
4. There are currently 16 Administrative Rules governing weather modification activities in Montana. The department will have to review each rule for compliance with the criteria in SB 29. It is anticipated that some rules will be repealed, others modified, and several new ones will be created.
5. An inflation factor of 1.5 percent has been added for FY 2024 and FY 2025

	<u>FY 2022</u> <u>Difference</u>	<u>FY 2023</u> <u>Difference</u>	<u>FY 2024</u> <u>Difference</u>	<u>FY 2025</u> <u>Difference</u>
<u>Fiscal Impact:</u>				
FTE	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
<u>Expenditures:</u>				
Personal Services	\$78,546	\$78,546	\$79,724	\$80,920
Operating Expenses	\$8,000	\$5,200	\$5,278	\$5,357
TOTAL Expenditures	<u>\$86,546</u>	<u>\$83,746</u>	<u>\$85,002</u>	<u>\$86,277</u>
<u>Funding of Expenditures:</u>				
General Fund (01)	\$86,546	\$83,746	\$85,002	\$86,277
State Special Revenue (02)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
TOTAL Funding of Exp.	<u>\$86,546</u>	<u>\$83,746</u>	<u>\$85,002</u>	<u>\$86,277</u>
<u>Revenues:</u>				
General Fund (01)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
State Special Revenue (02)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
TOTAL Revenues	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>
<u>Net Impact to Fund Balance (Revenue minus Funding of Expenditures):</u>				
General Fund (01)	(\$86,546)	(\$83,746)	(\$85,002)	(\$86,277)
State Special Revenue (02)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Bruce D. Alessio
Sponsor's Initials

2-22-21
Date

KL
Budget Director's Initials

2/19/21
Date