

REVENUE: No revenue impact
FISCAL: Fiscal Impact Issued

Action: Do pass and rescind subsequent referral to Committee on Ways and Means.

Vote: 8-0-1

Yeas: Berger, Bruun, Gelser, Olson, Read, Rosenbaum, Witt, Barnhart

Nays:

Exc.: Butler

Prepared By: Mazen Malik, Economist

Meeting Dates: 5/3

WHAT THE BILL DOES: Specifies that investments are a function that needs to be explicitly allowed by the legislature. Separates out from the general fund a number of funds that currently retain their own interest. Creates Community Housing Trust, and allows it to be invested. Removes the elected offices from the structure of the governor's budget, and restores them to their old independent status in budgeting.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- The need to preserve the separation and independence of the state elected offices.
- Budgets are needed to be separated to preserve independence, yet they will comply with rules and mechanics of budgeting.
- Accountability and independence in government elected officers for 150 years.
- The need for cleaner definition of the current interest bearing funds within the general fund.
- More logical management and distinction of funds.
- The difference between earning interest as an account and to be explicitly invested.

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS: None

BACKGROUND:

The need to clarify any misinterpretation of whether fund needs to be separately invested, when it is allowed to earn interest.

Gets a number of the interest earning-keeping accounts out of the general fund and establish them explicitly and distinctly as independent funds. 1) The mobile Home Parks Account, 2) The mobile Home Parks purchase Account, 3) The Oil Spillage Control Fund, 4) The Restoration and Protection Research Fund, 5) the Community Electric Public Service Fund, and 6) The Low-income Electric Bill Payment Assistant Fund.

Removes the last session inclusion of elected officer budgets from the governor budget structure. This restoration of independent budgets will reflect the independence of the agencies of the elected offices and the different roles they play in the state as constitutional officers.

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This summary has not been adopted or officially endorsed by action of the committee.