

Joint Committee On Ways and Means Subcommittee On Natural Resources

SB 5512 – Budget for the General Fund to the State Department of Geology and Mineral Industries for biennial expenses.

I'd like to point out that the summary of this bill is faulty in that it is not intended to cover the biennial expenses.

In this bill the General Fund moneys are increased by \$284,688 over the 2013-2014 approved budget, which is more than a 11% increase to taxpayers. What makes the summary faulty is under the Emergency Board bill, SB 5507, an additional \$2,190,141 is allocated specifically for distribution to the Dept. of Geology and Mineral Industries for operations during the second fiscal year. There were no Emergency Board allocations for the 2013-2014 biennium. That means the Department of Geology and Mineral Industries has a total increased impact on the General Fund of an additional \$2,474,829. That is about a 90% increase to taxpayers from the General Fund.

I couldn't check what the Governor's budget allocates because it has been removed from the website. To make this budget viable, the amount allocated to the Emergency Board for the second fiscal year should be removed or the General Funds moneys requested here split between the two bills.

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