



GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF
BUDGET AND PROGRAM PLANNING

Fiscal Note 2025 Biennium

Bill information:

HB0381 - Revise laws related to methamphetamine contamination (Brewster, Larry)

Status: As Introduced

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Significant Local Gov Impact | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Needs to be included in HB 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> Technical Concerns |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Included in the Executive Budget | <input type="checkbox"/> Significant Long-Term Impacts | <input type="checkbox"/> Dedicated Revenue Form Attached |

FISCAL SUMMARY

	FY 2024 Difference	FY 2025 Difference	FY 2026 Difference	FY 2027 Difference
Expenditures:				
General Fund	\$90,965	\$92,785	\$94,640	\$96,535
Revenue:				
General Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Net Impact-General Fund Balance:	(\$90,965)	(\$92,785)	(\$94,640)	(\$96,535)

Description of fiscal impact: HB 381 expands the scope of methamphetamine clean-up. The bill expands law enforcement reporting to include “smoking” which will add properties and subsequent workload to DEQ’s Methamphetamine Cleanup Program. An exact number of additional contaminated properties is difficult to accurately predict. A review of the Board of Crime Control data indicated that the number could be as high as 1,926 per year. However, DEQ has utilize the information provided in the assumptions below as a more probable estimate of fiscal impact.

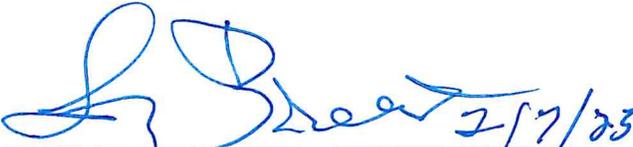
FISCAL ANALYSIS

Assumptions:

1. HB 381 as drafted would modify the Methamphetamine Clean Up Act, 75-10-1306, MCA.
2. Law enforcement would be required to report to DEQ inhabitable properties contaminated from smoke from the use of methamphetamine.
3. DEQ would be required to post law enforcement reported inhabitable properties on the DEQ website.
4. In 2022, the Methamphetamine Cleanup Program provided Certificates of Fitness to seven properties that were submitted by law enforcement for meth production.

5. In 2022, five properties voluntarily requested a Certificate of Fitness (these were properties not reported by law enforcement but were contaminated by smoking).
6. Currently, Methamphetamine Cleanup Program staff time is spent on providing information and compliance assistance to people who own inhabitable properties impacted by meth smoking.
7. DEQ presently has 1.50 FTE in the Methamphetamine Cleanup Program and expects that additional time will be needed for listing and processing properties impacted by smoking.
8. The Methamphetamine Cleanup Program’s workload has the potential to increase, as the demand to delist grows. The Methamphetamine Cleanup Program would likely have an increase in workload reviewing assessments, decontamination, and clearance plans to issue Certificates of Fitness when standards are met.
9. Review of the Montana Board of Crime Control “Statistical Analysis of Drug Seizures” chart shows an average of 1,926 methamphetamine drug seizures in 2020 and 2021.
10. DEQ assumes 50% of the meth seizures noted in #9, are incidents that occurred in an inhabitable structure. Therefore, DEQ estimates 963 incidents per year that may be reported to DEQ by law enforcement.
11. It takes 3 hours of technical staff time to review assessments, decontamination, and clearance plans to issue Certificates of Fitness when standards are met. Therefore, 3 hours x 963 properties = 2,889 hours of staff time needed.
12. Implementation of HB 381 would require an additional 1.00 FTE Environmental Scientist 2. Salary and benefits as well as associated operating expenses are shown in the table below.

	<u>FY 2024</u> <u>Difference</u>	<u>FY 2025</u> <u>Difference</u>	<u>FY 2026</u> <u>Difference</u>	<u>FY 2027</u> <u>Difference</u>
<u>Fiscal Impact:</u>				
FTE	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
<u>Expenditures:</u>				
Personal Services	\$73,359	\$74,826	\$76,323	\$77,850
Operating Expenses	<u>\$17,606</u>	<u>\$17,959</u>	<u>\$18,317</u>	<u>\$18,685</u>
TOTAL Expenditures	<u><u>\$90,965</u></u>	<u><u>\$92,785</u></u>	<u><u>\$94,640</u></u>	<u><u>\$96,535</u></u>
<u>Funding of Expenditures:</u>				
General Fund (01)	<u>\$90,965</u>	<u>\$92,785</u>	<u>\$94,640</u>	<u>\$96,535</u>
TOTAL Funding of Exp.	<u><u>\$90,965</u></u>	<u><u>\$92,785</u></u>	<u><u>\$94,640</u></u>	<u><u>\$96,535</u></u>
<u>Revenues:</u>				
General Fund (01)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
State Special Revenue (02)	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>
TOTAL Revenues	<u><u>\$0</u></u>	<u><u>\$0</u></u>	<u><u>\$0</u></u>	<u><u>\$0</u></u>
<u>Net Impact to Fund Balance (Revenue minus Funding of Expenditures):</u>				
General Fund (01)	(\$90,965)	(\$92,785)	(\$94,640)	(\$96,535)
State Special Revenue (02)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

		
Sponsor's Initials	Date	Date