

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE

BILL NO. Senate Bill 490

PRINTER'S NO. 750

AMOUNT

(\$182,500,000)
\$174,000,000

FUND

Oil & Gas Lease Fund
General

DATE INTRODUCED

March 5, 2009

PRIME SPONSOR

Senator M. White

HISTORY OF BILL

Referred to ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY, March 5, 2009
Reported as committed, March 17, 2009
First consideration, March 17, 2009
Re-referred to APPROPRIATIONS, March 18, 2009
Re-reported as amended, March 23, 2009

DESCRIPTION AND PURPOSE OF BILL

An Act amending the act of December 15, 1955 (P.L. 865, No. 256), entitled "An act requiring rents and royalties from oil and gas leases of Commonwealth land to be placed in a special fund to be used for conservation, recreation, dams, and flood control; authorizing the Secretary of Forests and Waters to determine the need for and location of such projects and to acquire the necessary land," providing for appropriations from the Oil and Gas Lease Fund; and making editorial changes.

Senate Bill 490 updates the language in the statute to refer to the Secretary of Conservation and Natural Resources, than from the Secretary of Forests and Waters.

The bill transfers \$174 million from the Oil and Gas Lease Fund to the General Fund.

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The bill appropriates \$1 million from the Oil and Gas Lease Fund to the Department of Environmental Protection to distribute to county conservation districts who have responsibilities related to oil and gas development activities regulated by the department and who must conduct inspections of permitted oil and gas sites.

The bill appropriates \$3.5 million from the Oil and Gas Lease Fund to the Department of Environmental Protection to fund the implementation of the nutrient credit trading program as provided by law.

The bill appropriates \$1 million from the Oil and Gas Lease Fund to the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources specifically for the administration of the Pennsylvania Natural Heritage Program and to fund the online processing of environmental review applications submitted under the Pennsylvania Natural Diversity Inventory (PNDI).

The bill appropriates \$500,000 from the Oil and Gas Lease Fund to the Fish and Boat Commission to fund the administration of their environmental reviews received under the PNDI.

The bill appropriates \$500,000 from the Oil and Gas Lease Fund to the Game Commission to fund the administration of their environmental reviews received under the PNDI.

The bill authorizes the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources to expend up to \$2,000,000 from the Oil and Gas Lease Fund on the carbon sequestration pilot project authorized under 66 Pa.C.S. § 2815 (c) (2).