

**SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE
FISCAL NOTE**

BILL NO. House Bill 1557

PRINTER NO. 2193

AMOUNT

No Fiscal Impact

FUND

Coal Refuse Disposal Control Fund
(Restricted account in the General Fund)

DATE INTRODUCED

June 4, 2019

PRIME SPONSOR

Representative Gabler

DESCRIPTION

House Bill 1557 amends the Coal Refuse Disposal Control Act to conform to federal law for cessation of operations.

This legislation removes the current one-year cessation limit and requires temporary cessation of coal refuse disposal areas to conform to federal regulations pursuant to the federal Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977.

It also requires all new coal refuse disposal areas to have a water contamination prevention system and allow for revegetation and prevention of erosion.

This bill also allows for the Department of Environmental Protection (department) to promulgate regulations to provide for the connection of coal refuse or related material to the coal refuse disposal area.

FISCAL IMPACT:

House Bill 1557 will have no fiscal impact on the Coal Refuse Disposal Control Fund. While the legislation allows for longer temporary cessation, mine operators are still required to meet and maintain all permit and water treatment requirements. Fees are paid with the permit application, and therefore the cessation of the site will not impact the fee revenues paid.