



Joint Budget Committee Staff

Memorandum

To: Joint Budget Committee Members
From: Craig Harper, JBC Staff (303-866-3481)
Date: Thursday, March 20, 2025
Subject: **Executive Committee Requested Transfer from the Legislative Department Cash Fund**

The Executive Committee has asked the Joint Budget Committee to sponsor a bill transferring \$6,338,640 from the Legislative Department Cash Fund to the General Fund to help with budget balancing. As described in the Legislative Council Staff narrative for S.B. 25-188 (Legislative Appropriation Bill), the Executive Committee initially requested a transfer of \$4,338,640.¹ On March 18, 2025, the Executive Committee voted to increase the transfer by \$2.0 million.

Based on the Executive Committee's action, staff recommends including a transfer of \$6,338,640 in the Committee's transfer bill. The fund began FY 2024-25 with a balance of \$25.5 million, and the proposed transfer would not impact any of the planned uses of the fund. The table on the following page (which is from the narrative document for S.B. 25-188) shows the beginning balance of the fund for FY 2024-25, revenues, expenditures, and encumbrances through February 21, 2025, and the planned uses of the fund as of the publication of the narrative. It is staff's understanding that some anticipated expenditures for the year have decreased since publication (furniture costs).

Legislative Department Cash Fund Background

Reversions of unspent General Fund appropriations to the Legislative Branch are the primary source of revenue for the Legislative Department Cash Fund. Reversions to the fund have averaged \$4.2 million per year since FY 2011-12, although staff anticipates lower reversions for FY 2025-26 because of reductions incorporated in S.B. 25-188 (such as eliminating funding for special sessions). Except for money specifically appropriated for redistricting, statute continuously appropriates resources in the fund to the Executive Committee of the Legislative Council "to pay for expenses of the legislative department of the state of Colorado."

¹ See the "Requests of the Joint Budget Committee" section beginning on page 4 of the narrative. The initial request for the transfer is in paragraph "c" on page 5. The narrative describing the introduced bill and the initial request of the JBC is available at:

https://leg.colorado.gov/sites/default/files/leg_department_budget_package_and_narrative.pdf

Table 2. Legislative Department Cash Fund Balance
As of February 21, 2025

Amount	Source
\$25,495,106	FY 2024-25 beginning fund balance
<i>plus \$518,568</i>	Revenues year-to-date through January
<i>less \$1,155,519</i>	Expenditures year-to-date through January
less \$2,791,677	Reserves set aside for ongoing projects, which include:
	\$161,305 for Capitol ground floor renovation (phase 1)
	\$2,200,000 for Capitol member office renovation
	\$186,070 for 2025 moving expenses
	\$80,380 for Annex furniture consulting
	\$59,251 for Senate renovation
	\$50,000 for construction consulting
	\$25,092 for signage
	\$16,742 for House projects
	\$12,837 for Property Tax Commission facilitator (outstanding invoices)
\$22,066,478	Unencumbered fund balance
less \$857,061	Reserves set aside in earmarked accounts, which include:
	\$550,000 in the iPad and computer refresh account
	\$203,271 in the Colorado Channel account
	\$60,106 in the Capitol Building Advisory Committee account
	\$42,000 in the television for special sessions account
	\$1,684 in the Mr. Brown's Attic account
\$21,209,417	Unreserved fund balance
less \$9,593,640	Estimated cost for planned expenses, which include:
	\$430,000 in the Legislative Appropriations Bill
	\$4,338,640 proposed transfer to the General Fund in the Long Bill Package
	\$4,000,000 for Annex furniture (top range of estimates; actual will be lower)
	\$300,000 for Annex information technology infrastructure
	\$250,000 to fully fund the iPad and computer refresh
	\$250,000 for the Capitol ground floor, LCS phase 2
	\$25,000 for displaying the Colorado Constitution in the Capitol
\$11,615,777	Remaining balance