

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS**

301 State House
(317) 232-9855

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6567

BILL NUMBER: HB 1348

DATE PREPARED: Mar 11, 1999

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Lake and River Enhancement Fund.

FISCAL ANALYST: Brian Tabor

PHONE NUMBER: 233-9456

**FUNDS AFFECTED: GENERAL
 X DEDICATED
 FEDERAL**

IMPACT: State

Summary of Legislation: This bill specifies that the Lake and River Enhancement Fund is a dedicated fund. It continuously appropriates money in the fund for use in implementing lake and river enhancement projects. The bill also strikes language requiring the approval of the Governor and Budget Agency to use money in the fund. In addition, the bill requires the Treasurer to invest the funds and deposit interest from investments into the fund.

Effective Date: July 1, 1999.

Explanation of State Expenditures:

Explanation of State Revenues: (Revised) Currently, appropriations from the Lake and River Enhancement Fund are made by the General Assembly. This bill would clearly establish the fund as dedicated, granting the director of the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) the authority to administer it. It would also allow money available in the Lake and River Enhancement Fund to be appropriated continuously. The bill also directs the State Treasurer to invest any money not currently needed. The interest earned would be deposited back into the fund, increasing revenues by the amount returned on the investment.

Revenues to this fund are generated by a \$5 boat registration fee. As of March 10, 1999, the balance of the Lake and River Enhancement Fund was \$3,748,651. The DNR's Division of Soil Conservation is responsible for selecting projects to receive money from the fund.

Explanation of Local Expenditures:

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: DNR; Treasurer.

Local Agencies Affected:

Information Sources: James Ray, Chief of Land and Water Resources, Department of Soil Conservation, DNR, (317) 233-3871.