

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

200 W. Washington, Suite 301  
Indianapolis, IN 46204  
(317) 233-0696  
<http://www.in.gov/legislative>

**FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

**LS 7468**

**BILL NUMBER:** HB 1553

**NOTE PREPARED:** Apr 4, 2003

**BILL AMENDED:** Apr 3, 2003

**SUBJECT:** Mine Safety Fund.

**FIRST AUTHOR:** Rep. Liggett

**FIRST SPONSOR:** Sen. Weatherwax

**BILL STATUS:** CR Adopted - 2<sup>nd</sup> House

**FUNDS AFFECTED:**    **GENERAL**  
                          **X DEDICATED**  
                          **FEDERAL**

**IMPACT:** State

**Summary of Legislation:** (Amended) This bill allows the Mining Board to assess and collect from underground mine operators an assessment to purchase and maintain underground mine rescue equipment. The bill establishes the Mine Safety Fund, to be funded by the assessment and to be administered by the Commissioner of the Department of Labor (Commissioner). The bill also requires the Mining Board to report annually to the Commissioner concerning any need for additional mine inspectors.

**Effective Date:** July 1, 2003.

**Explanation of State Expenditures:** (Revised) This bill establishes the Mine Safety Fund. This bill allows the Mining Board to assess mine operators for the purchase and maintenance costs associated with underground mine rescue equipment. Revenues from assessments are to be deposited in the Fund. Department staff estimate purchase price of required equipment at \$81,000. Additional equipment needs and associated maintenance costs may increase this cost. This bill does not allow the expenses of administering the fund to be paid from money in the fund. To the extent that the Department incurs costs associated with administration of the fund, expenditures from Department funds may increase. However, this increase is expected to be minimal.

**Explanation of State Revenues:** (Revised) This bill allows the Mining Board to assess mine operators for the purchase and maintenance costs associated with underground mine rescue equipment. The bill is silent on the amount of the assessment that the Board can impose. This bill establishes the Mine Safety Fund. Revenues from assessments are to be deposited in the Fund, and money in the Fund at the end of a fiscal year does not revert to the state General Fund.

**Explanation of Local Expenditures:**

**Explanation of Local Revenues:**

**State Agencies Affected:** Department of Labor.

**Local Agencies Affected:**

**Information Sources:** Pete Rimsans, Department of Labor, 317-232-2683.

**Fiscal Analyst:** Michael Molnar, 317-232-9559