



GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF
BUDGET AND PROGRAM PLANNING

Fiscal Note 2027 Biennium

Bill#/Title: **HB0555.01 R: Generally revise laws related to chemical abortion**

Primary Sponsor: **Kerri Seekins-Crowe**

Status: **As Introduced - Revised**

☐ Included in the Executive Budget ☒ Needs to be included in HB 2 ☒ Significant Local Gov Impact
☐ Significant Long-Term Impacts ☒ Technical Concerns ☐ Dedicated Revenue Form Attached

FISCAL SUMMARY

	<u>FY 2026 Difference</u>	<u>FY 2027 Difference</u>	<u>FY 2028 Difference</u>	<u>FY 2029 Difference</u>
Expenditures				
General Fund (01)	\$279,184	\$282,244	\$289,305	\$288,287
Revenues				
General Fund (01)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Net Impact	<u>(\$279,184)</u>	<u>(\$282,244)</u>	<u>(\$289,305)</u>	<u>(\$288,287)</u>
General Fund Balance				

Description of fiscal impact

HB 555 requires the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) to establish rules and create a new water monitoring program. There will be fiscal impacts to DEQ and local governments.

FISCAL ANALYSIS

Assumptions

Department of Environmental Quality

1. HB 555 requires DEQ to develop a wastewater monitoring system for newly defined chemical biproducts.
2. DEQ requires 2.00 FTE, Environmental Science Specialists, to establish rules, develop program, provide training, and implement provisions of HB 555.
3. DEQ will establish standards for the collection and disposal of discarded abortion drugs.
4. DEQ will establish standards for mitigation and remediation to address environmental effects of abortion drugs discharged into waters of the state.
5. DEQ will establish water testing requirements for all State of Montana Public Water Supply owner/operators.
6. Public waste treatment facilities (approximately 1,000) will be responsible for sampling twice per calendar month at an estimated cost of \$400.00/per sample. The overall fiscal impact to waste treatment facilities would be \$9,600,000 (1,000 facilities x \$400 per sample x 2 times per month x 12 months).
7. DEQ assumes lab analysis is available to detect chemicals used in abortion drugs.
8. Montana DEQ is a primacy agency that is responsible for implementing the federal Safe Drinking Water Act, which does not include federal funding for the requirements of HB 555, therefore general fund will be needed.

Fiscal Analysis Table

Department of Environmental Quality

	<u>FY 2026 Difference</u>	<u>FY 2027 Difference</u>	<u>FY 2028 Difference</u>	<u>FY 2029 Difference</u>
<u>Fiscal Impact</u>				
FTE	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00
TOTAL Fiscal Impact	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00
<u>Expenditures</u>				
Personal Services	\$220,794	\$225,681	\$231,375	\$230,554
Operating Expenses	\$58,390	\$56,563	\$57,930	\$57,733
TOTAL Expenditures	\$279,184	\$282,244	\$289,305	\$288,287
<u>Funding of Expenditures</u>				
General Fund (01)	\$279,184	\$282,244	\$289,305	\$288,287
TOTAL Funding of Expenditures	\$279,184	\$282,244	\$289,305	\$288,287
<u>Revenues</u>				
<u>Net Impact to Fund Balance (Revenue minus Funding of Expenditures)</u>				
General Fund (01)	(\$279,184)	(\$282,244)	(\$289,305)	(\$288,287)

Effect on County or Other Local Revenues or Expenditures

- Public waste treatment facilities (approximately 1,000) will be responsible for sampling twice per calendar month at an estimated cost of \$400.00/per sample. The overall fiscal impact to waste treatment facilities would be \$9,600,000 (1,000 facilities x \$400 per sample x 2 times per month x 12 months).
- This bill may require local governments to spend additional sums for which no specific means of financing are provided. Section 1-2-114, MCA, provides that bills that have such an impact may not be introduced.

Technical Concerns

- DEQ is unsure if lab analysis is available to detect chemicals used in abortion drugs.

NOT SIGNED BY SPONSOR

Sponsor's Initials

Date



Budget Director's Initials

3/4/2025

Date