

SENATE BILL NO. 343

INTRODUCED BY D. FERN

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT REVISING THE DISTRIBUTION OF MONEY FROM THE COAL SEVERANCE TAX TO INCREASE THE AMOUNT IN THE COAL SEVERANCE TAX PERMANENT FUND; REDIRECTING HALF OF THE DISTRIBUTIONS OF REMAINING ALLOCATIONS FROM THE GENERAL FUND TO THE COAL SEVERANCE TAX PERMANENT FUND; AND AMENDING SECTION 15-35-108, MCA."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

**Section 1.** Section 15-35-108, MCA, is amended to read:

**"15-35-108. (Temporary) Disposal of severance taxes.** Severance taxes collected under this chapter must, in accordance with the provisions of 17-2-124, be allocated as follows:

(1) Fifty percent of total coal severance tax collections is allocated to the trust fund created by Article IX, section 5, of the Montana constitution, including any excess funds pursuant to subsection (11). The trust fund money must be deposited in the fund established under 17-6-203(6) and invested by the board of investments as provided by law.

(2) The amount of 12% of coal severance tax collections is allocated to the major repair long-range building program account established in 17-7-221.

(3) The amount of 0.90% in fiscal year 2020 and 0.93% in fiscal year 2021 and in each fiscal year thereafter must be allocated for provision of basic library services for the residents of all counties through library federations and for payment of the costs of participating in regional and national networking and must be deposited in the basic library services account established in 22-1-202.

(4) The amount of 3.77% in fiscal year 2020 and 3.71% in fiscal year 2021 and in each fiscal year thereafter must be allocated to the department of natural resources and conservation for conservation districts and deposited in the conservation district account established in 76-15-106.

(5) The amount of 0.79% in fiscal year 2020 and 0.82% in fiscal year 2021 and in each fiscal year thereafter must be allocated to the Montana Growth Through Agriculture Act and deposited in the growth

1 through agriculture account established in 90-9-104.

2 (6) The amount of 1.27% must be allocated to a permanent fund account for the purpose of parks  
3 acquisition or management. Income from this permanent fund account, excluding unrealized gains and losses,  
4 must be appropriated for the acquisition, development, operation, and maintenance of any sites and areas  
5 described in 23-1-102.

6 (7) The amount of 0.95% must be allocated to the debt service fund type to the credit of the  
7 renewable resource loan debt service fund.

8 (8) The amount of 0.63% must be allocated to a trust fund for the purpose of protection of works of  
9 art in the capitol and for other cultural and aesthetic projects. Income from this trust fund account, excluding  
10 unrealized gains and losses, must be appropriated for protection of works of art in the state capitol and for other  
11 cultural and aesthetic projects.

12 (9) The amount of 5.8% must be credited to the coal natural resource account established in 90-6-  
13 1001(2).

14 (10) After the allocations are made under subsections (2) through (9), \$250,000 for the fiscal year  
15 must be credited to the coal and uranium mine permitting and reclamation program account established in 82-  
16 4-244.

17 (11) (a) Subject to subsection (11)(b), all other revenue from severance taxes collected under the  
18 provisions of this chapter must be credited to the general fund of the state until the fiscal year beginning July 1,  
19 2027, and then 50% must be credited to the trust fund established under 17-6-203(6) and 50% must be  
20 credited to the general fund.

21 (b) The interest income of the coal severance tax permanent fund that is deposited in the general  
22 fund is statutorily appropriated, as provided in 17-7-502, on July 1 each year until the fiscal year beginning July  
23 1, 2027, as follows:

24 (i) to the department of agriculture:

25 (A) \$65,000 for the cooperative development center;

26 (B) \$900,000 for the growth through agriculture program provided for in Title 90, chapter 9;

27 (C) \$600,000 for the Montana food and agricultural development program provided for in Title 80,  
28 chapter 11;

(ii) to the department of commerce:

(A) \$325,000 for a small business development center;

(B) \$50,000 for a small business innovative research program;

(C) \$625,000 for certified regional development corporations;

(D) \$500,000 for the Montana manufacturing extension center at Montana state university-  
Bozeman; and

(E) \$300,000 for export trade enhancement. (Terminates June 30, 2027--secs. 13, 15, 18, Ch. 343,  
L. 2019.)

**15-35-108. (Effective July 1, 2027) Disposal of severance taxes.** Severance taxes collected under  
this chapter must, in accordance with the provisions of 17-2-124, be allocated as follows:

(1) Fifty percent of total coal severance tax collections is allocated to the trust fund created by  
Article IX, section 5, of the Montana constitution, including any excess funds pursuant to subsection (11). The  
trust fund money must be deposited in the fund established under 17-6-203(6) and invested by the board of  
investments as provided by law.

(2) The amount of 12% of coal severance tax collections is allocated to the major repair long-range  
building program account established in 17-7-221.

(3) The amount of 0.90% in fiscal year 2020 and 0.93% in fiscal year 2021 and in each fiscal year  
thereafter must be allocated for provision of basic library services for the residents of all counties through library  
federations and for payment of the costs of participating in regional and national networking and must be  
deposited in the basic library services account established in 22-1-202.

(4) The amount of 3.77% in fiscal year 2020 and 3.71% in fiscal year 2021 and in each fiscal year  
thereafter must be allocated to the department of natural resources and conservation for conservation districts  
and deposited in the conservation district account established in 76-15-106.

(5) The amount of 0.79% in fiscal year 2020 and 0.82% in fiscal year 2021 and in each fiscal year  
thereafter must be allocated to the Montana Growth Through Agriculture Act and deposited in the growth  
through agriculture account established in 90-9-104.

(6) The amount of 1.27% must be allocated to a permanent fund account for the purpose of parks  
acquisition or management. Income from this permanent fund account, excluding unrealized gains and losses,

# Amendment - 1st Reading-white - Requested by: Mary Ann Dunwell - (S) Taxation

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Drafter: Jaret Coles,

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1 must be appropriated for the acquisition, development, operation, and maintenance of any sites and areas  
2 described in 23-1-102.

3 (7) The amount of 0.95% must be allocated to the debt service fund type to the credit of the  
4 renewable resource loan debt service fund.

5 (8) The amount of 0.63% must be allocated to a trust fund for the purpose of protection of works of  
6 art in the capitol and for other cultural and aesthetic projects. Income from this trust fund account, excluding  
7 unrealized gains and losses, must be appropriated for protection of works of art in the state capitol and for other  
8 cultural and aesthetic projects.

9 (9) The amount of 5.8% must be credited to the coal natural resource account established in 90-6-  
10 1001(2).

11 (10) After the allocations are made under subsections (2) through (9), \$250,000 for the fiscal year  
12 must be credited to the coal and uranium mine permitting and reclamation program account established in 82-  
13 4-244.

14 (11) All Commencing in the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2027, 50% of all other revenue from  
15 severance taxes collected under the provisions of this chapter must be credited to the general fund of the state  
16 trust fund established under 17-6-203(6), and the remaining 50% must be credited to the general fund."

17 - END -