
Capital Budget Committee

HB 2395

Brief Description: Concerning the capital budget.

Sponsors: Representative Tharinger; by request of Office of Financial Management.

| Brief Summary of Bill |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Appropriates \$4.4 billion in total funds, of which \$2.85 billion is financed through bond proceeds.• Authorizes \$236.7 million in alternatively financed projects. |

Hearing Date: 2/22/18

Staff: Melissa Palmer (786-7388).

Background:

Washington operates on a biennial budget cycle. During odd-numbered fiscal years, the Legislature historically authorizes expenditures for capital needs in the Omnibus Capital Appropriations Act (Capital Budget) for a two-year period, and authorizes bond sales through passage of a bond bill associated with the Capital Budget to fund a portion of these expenditures. The Capital Budget includes appropriations for the acquisition, construction, and repair of capital assets such as state office buildings, prisons, juvenile rehabilitation centers, residential habilitation centers, mental health facilities, military readiness centers, and higher education facilities. The Capital Budget also funds a variety of environmental and natural resource projects, parks, recreational facilities, and public schools.

Historically, over one-half of the Capital Budget is financed by these state-issued general obligation bonds, and the remaining portion is funded by dedicated accounts, trust revenue, and federal funding sources. During even-numbered fiscal years, the Legislature historically enacts a supplemental budget making adjustments to the two-year budget. The Legislature did not authorize a Capital Budget or bond sales during the 2017 Legislative Session. In January 2018,

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during the 2018 Legislative Session, the Legislature authorized \$2.93 billion in general obligation bonds and appropriated \$4.2 billion in total funds for a 2017-19 biennial Capital Budget, of which \$2.72 billion is financed through general obligation bond proceeds. The current 2017-19 biennium covers the period from July 1, 2017, through June 30, 2019.

Summary of Bill:

A total of \$4.4 billion is appropriated for capital projects, of which \$2.85 billion is financed through general obligation bond proceeds. An additional \$236.7 million is authorized in alternative financing contracts for specific projects.

Appropriation: The sum of \$4.4 billion in total funds.

Fiscal Note: Not requested.

Effective Date: The bill contains an emergency clause and takes effect immediately.