



GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF  
BUDGET AND PROGRAM PLANNING

## Fiscal Note 2027 Biennium

Bill#/Title: HB0346: Exempt Commerce grants and loans from MEPA

Primary Sponsor: Paul Tuss Status: As Introduced

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>
<b>Expenditures</b>				
General Fund (01)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Revenues</b>				
General Fund (01)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Net Impact</b>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>
<b>General Fund Balance</b>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>

### Description of fiscal impact

HB 346 exempts the Department of Commerce grant and loan programs from review under the Montana Environmental Policy Act (MEPA). There is no fiscal impact.

### FISCAL ANALYSIS

#### Assumptions

- Under the current statutory framework, the department may be required to conduct an environmental assessment prior to deciding whether to authorize each individual grant or loan under programs previously authorized by the legislature. Exempting the department would reduce delays in grant and loan disbursements but would not have significant fiscal impact on the department.

  
Sponsor's Initials

2/3/25  
Date

  
Budget Director's Initials

2/3/2025  
Date