

## Department of Planning and Budget 2024 Session Fiscal Impact Statement

**1. Bill Number:** SB455

<b>House of Origin</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Introduced	<input type="checkbox"/> Substitute	<input type="checkbox"/> Engrossed
<b>Second House</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> In Committee	<input type="checkbox"/> Substitute	<input type="checkbox"/> Enrolled

**2. Patron:** Marsden

**3. Committee:** Finance and Appropriations

**4. Title:** Wildlife Corridor Grant Fund established; report.

**5. Summary:** Establishes the Wildlife Corridor Grant Fund to provide grants for projects that conserve or enhance wildlife corridors prioritized by the Wildlife Corridor Action Plan and associated wildlife crossing infrastructure projects. A grant program is established for the Department of Conservation and Recreation, the Department of Forestry, the Department of Transportation, and the Department of Wildlife Resources to collaborate on disbursing moneys from the Fund, and such Departments are directed to submit a report to the General Assembly by November 1 of each odd-numbered year concerning funding of the Fund, the awarding of grants from the Fund, and the progress of projects funded by the Fund, including data on the use of project infrastructure by wildlife.

**6. Budget Amendment Necessary:** Yes, to capitalize the Fund. Item 367 of HB30 as Introduced. See item 8.

**7. Fiscal Impact Estimates:** Preliminary. See item 8.

**8. Fiscal Implications:** The bill establishes the Wildlife Corridor Grant Fund. A budget amendment is needed to capitalize the Fund. The Department of Wildlife Resources is to initiate disbursements from the Fund. Moneys in the Fund are to be used for eligible projects that conserve or enhance wildlife corridors and associated wildlife crossing infrastructure projects. The bill allows the use of monies in the Fund for administrative costs.

It is anticipated that any fiscal impact on the Departments of Forestry and of Wildlife Resources as a result of this bill can be absorbed within existing resources. Information from the Departments of Conservation and Recreation, and of Transportation is not available at this time.

**9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:** Department of Conservation and Recreation; Department of Forestry; Department of Transportation; and Department of Wildlife Resources.

**10. Technical Amendment Necessary:** No.

**11. Other Comments:** None.