



FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 285

Committee: Ways and Means General Fund

Sponsor: Representative Bryan Brinyark

Analyst: Jennifer Farish

Date: 02/11/2026

House Bill 285 as reported by the Committee on Ways and Means General Fund would create the Coal-Impacted Communities Economic and Workplace Development Grant Program to be administered by the Department of Workforce to assist local development organizations with economic and workforce development initiatives in coal-impacted communities.

This bill would also create the Renewing Coal-Impacted Communities Act Fund within the State Treasury to receive revenues from rent and royalties derived from federal coal lease sales in the state, beginning after January 1, 2027 and would authorize the Department to retain up to 10% of the funds allocated for the grant program to cover the actual expenses incurred to: (1) implement and administer the provisions of this bill; (2) reimburse the advisory committee members' for per diem and travel expenses incurred in the performance of their duties; and (3) conduct financial audits.

This bill would also provide that rent and royalties from federal coal lease sales, beginning January 1, 2027 and ending December 31, 2030, would be distributed annually in the following order of priority: (1) \$1,000,000 to the State General Fund; (2) \$500,000 to the Alabama State Port Authority for the McDuffie Coal Terminal at the Port of Mobile; (3) \$250,000 to the Alabama Surface Mining Commission; and (4) any remaining amounts would remain in the Fund to be used by the Department of Workforce to award grants to eligible local development organizations.

Finally, this bill would establish the nine-member Coal-Impacted Communities Economic and Workforce Development Grant Program Advisory Committee to review grant applications and make recommendations to the Secretary of Workforce.