

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HOUSE BILL NO. 553

BY APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

AN ACT

RELATING TO THE APPROPRIATION TO THE SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION COMMISSION;  
 APPROPRIATING MONEYS TO THE SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION COMMISSION FOR  
 FISCAL YEAR 2025; LIMITING THE NUMBER OF AUTHORIZED FULL-TIME EQUIV-  
 ALENT POSITIONS; PROVIDING REQUIREMENTS FOR TRUSTEE AND BENEFIT PAY-  
 MENTS DISTRIBUTION; PROVIDING REQUIREMENTS FOR THE WATER QUALITY PRO-  
 GRAM FOR AGRICULTURE; PROVIDING REAPPROPRIATION AUTHORITY; PROVIDING  
 FOR ACCOUNTABILITY REPORTS; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY AND PROVIDING AN  
 EFFECTIVE DATE.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

SECTION 1. There is hereby appropriated to the Soil and Water Conserva-  
 tion Commission the following amounts to be expended according to the des-  
 ignated expense classes from the listed funds for the period July 1, 2024,  
 through June 30, 2025:

	FOR PERSONNEL COSTS	FOR OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FOR CAPITAL OUTLAY	FOR TRUSTEE AND BENEFIT PAYMENTS	TOTAL
FROM:					
General					
Fund	\$1,501,000	\$237,800	\$5,600	\$2,847,800	\$4,592,200
Administration and Accounting Services					
Fund		30,000			30,000
Resource Conservation and Rangeland Development					
Fund	206,800	157,400	200		364,400
Clean Water Revolving Loan (SCC)					
Fund	<u>0</u>	<u>30,000</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>30,000</u>
TOTAL	\$1,707,800	\$455,200	\$5,800	\$2,847,800	\$5,016,600

SECTION 2. FTP AUTHORIZATION. In accordance with Section 67-3519,  
 Idaho Code, the Soil and Water Conservation Commission is authorized no more  
 than seventeen and seventy-five hundredths (17.75) full-time equivalent  
 positions at any point during the period July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025,  
 unless specifically authorized by the Governor. The Joint Finance-Appro-  
 priations Committee will be notified promptly of any increased positions so  
 authorized.

SECTION 3. TRUSTEE AND BENEFIT PAYMENTS DISTRIBUTION. Of the amount ap-  
 propriated to the Soil and Water Conservation Commission in Section 1 of this

1 act for trustee and benefit payments, \$300,000 shall be distributed equally  
2 among the 50 soil and water conservation districts in addition to the amounts  
3 authorized pursuant to Section 22-2727, Idaho Code.

4 SECTION 4. WATER QUALITY PROGRAM FOR AGRICULTURE. Of the moneys appro-  
5 priated in Section 1 of this act for trustee and benefit payments, \$1,000,000  
6 shall be used for the Water Quality Program for Agriculture in accordance  
7 with Sections 22-2733 and 22-2734, Idaho Code, to provide cost-share financ-  
8 ing for soil and water conservation projects, water delivery and drainage  
9 rehabilitation and improvement projects, implementation of agricultural  
10 best management practices, and other projects to enhance and restore the  
11 soil and water resources of the state. The Soil and Water Conservation Com-  
12 mission shall administer this funding through existing grant procedures and  
13 personnel.

14 SECTION 5. REAPPROPRIATION AUTHORITY. There is hereby reappropriated  
15 to the Soil and Water Conservation Commission any unexpended and unencum-  
16 bered balances reappropriated to the Soil and Water Conservation Commission  
17 from the General Fund for fiscal year 2024 for the Water Quality Program for  
18 Agriculture to be used for nonrecurring expenditures related to the Water  
19 Quality Program for Agriculture for the period July 1, 2024, through June 30,  
20 2025. The Office of the State Controller shall confirm the reappropriation  
21 amount, by fund, expense class, and program, with the Legislative Services  
22 Office prior to processing the reappropriation authorized herein.

23 SECTION 6. ACCOUNTABILITY REPORTS. Funds specifically identified in  
24 statute or in an appropriation act as intended for a certain purpose may be  
25 used only for that purpose. All funds provided in this act shall be subject  
26 to accountability reports and managements reviews in accordance with Sec-  
27 tion 67-702, Idaho Code.

28 SECTION 7. An emergency existing therefor, which emergency is hereby  
29 declared to exist, this act shall be in full force and effect on and after  
30 July 1, 2024.