

## HOUSE BILL NO. HB0073

Abandoned mine reclamation accounts.

Sponsored by: Joint Appropriations Committee

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to environmental quality; creating the  
2 long-term abandoned mine reclamation account; specifying  
3 permissible uses of the account; authorizing investment of  
4 funds in the account; specifying the limits of liability  
5 for funds in the account; repealing the abandoned mine  
6 lands fund balancing account; specifying transfers of funds  
7 from repealed accounts; and providing for an effective  
8 date.

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10 *Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:*

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12 **Section 1.** W.S. 35-11-1211 is created to read:

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14 **35-11-1211. Long-term abandoned mine reclamation**  
15 **account.**

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1           (a) There is created the long-term abandoned mine  
2 reclamation account. The state treasurer shall, upon  
3 direction from the department, deposit up to thirty percent  
4 (30%) of the amount of all funds provided to the state by  
5 the United States secretary of the interior under section  
6 40701(c) of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, as  
7 amended by section 801 of the Consolidated Appropriations  
8 Act, 2023, into the account. The state treasurer shall  
9 invest funds in the account in accordance with law, and  
10 earnings from these investments shall be credited to the  
11 account. The liability of the state to fulfill the  
12 requirements of this section is limited to the amount of  
13 unobligated, unexpended funds in the account. The state  
14 shall have no obligations under this section except to the  
15 extent of federal funds deposited into this account and the  
16 earnings of the account. No funds in the account shall be  
17 expended for any purpose not specified in section 40701(c)  
18 of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, as amended  
19 by section 801 of the Consolidated Appropriations Act,  
20 2023. Funds in the account shall be expended only upon  
21 legislative appropriation for the following purposes:

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1           (i) The abatement of the causes and the  
2 treatment of the effects of acid mine drainage resulting  
3 from coal mining practices, including for the costs of  
4 building, operating, maintaining and rehabilitating acid  
5 mine drainage treatment systems;

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7           (ii) The prevention, abatement and control of  
8 subsidence;

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10           (iii) The prevention, abatement and control of  
11 coal mine fires.

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13           **Section 2.** W.S. 35-11-1210(e) is repealed.

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15           **Section 3.** The abandoned mine land funds balancing  
16 account is repealed. On the effective date of this act, the  
17 state auditor shall transfer any unexpended, unobligated  
18 funds from the abandoned mine land funds balancing account  
19 to the abandoned mine land funds reserve account created in  
20 W.S. 35-11-1210(a).

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1       **Section 4.** This act is effective July 1, 2024.

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(END)