

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

SB 5511

Department of Geology and Mineral Industries

SB 5511 is the budget bill for the Department of Geology and Mineral Industries. The Natural Resources Subcommittee recommends a budget of \$2.5 million General Fund, \$2.8 million Other Funds, and \$2.9 million Federal Funds, for a total biennial budget of \$8.3 million, including 39 positions and 19.46 FTE. This reflects a one-year budget for the agency.

The Department has cash flow issues in both of its programs in the current biennium and the budget adjusts the 2017-19 legislatively approved budget. The budget includes \$650,000 General Fund to 2017-19 to support current operations and backfill overspending the General Fund appropriation in the Geologic Survey program. The budget also includes \$400,000 Other Funds limitation to support current operations of the Mined Land Reclamation program.

The 2019-21 budget includes the elimination of five positions in the Geologic Survey program that will provide the General Fund savings necessary to fund two new financial support positions within the agency. These new positions will provide additional grant and contract oversight for the program to eliminate overspending. Finally, there are three budget notes, including directing the Governor's Office and the Department of Administrative Services to report back in 2020 on a detailed strategic plan for the future of the agency.

The Natural Resources Subcommittee recommends SB 5511 be amended by the –3 amendment and be reported out do pass, as amended.