

**HOUSE SUMMARY OF SENATE AMENDMENTS**

**HB 49**

**2017 Regular Session**

**Bishop**

MINERALS/MINERAL BOARD: To provide for the Mineral and Energy Operation Fund

**Synopsis of Senate Amendments**

1. Adds a source of funding from nonjudicial settlements, including but not limited to settlements from disputed royalties.

**Digest of Bill as Finally Passed by Senate**

Present law establishes the Mineral and Energy Operation Fund as a special fund in the state treasury to be used solely for the administration and regulation of minerals, groundwater, and related energy activities. The secretary of the department is required to annually report to the legislature with respect to legal costs paid with monies from the fund.

Present law provides for deposit of the following revenues into the fund: up to \$1.6 million received from judgments and settlements, income received from seismic survey permits, and any other monies designated for deposit.

Proposed law adds nonjudicial settlements, including settlements of royalty audit findings to proposed law and deposits an additional \$900,000 per year into the fund from judgments and settlements, including nonjudicial settlements, for FY 2017-2018 through FY 2020-2021.

(Amends R.S. 30:136.3(B)(1))