FISCAL NOTE

This bill creates the Statutory Trust Fund Investment Pool. The State Treasurer may invest up to 60% of the funds in the pool in equities including stocks of corporations.

Monies in the following funds shall be invested in the Statutory Trust Fund Investment Pool:

- The Wyoming Tobacco Settlement Trust Fund
- The Wyoming Wildlife and Natural Resource Trust Account
- The Wyoming Cultural Trust Fund
- The Wyoming Public Television Matching Fund Account
- The Trust Account within the Wyoming Game and Fish Fund

Allowing these non-permanent funds and accounts to invest in equities could increase their investment income on a long-term basis. As of the end of fiscal year 2016, the investment returns for the State Agency Pool (that could not invest in equities) averaged 3.05% for the last 5 years. The returns for the Permanent Wyoming Trust Fund (that could invest in equities) over the same period averaged 5.27%. Therefore, the inclusion of equity investments in these funds and accounts could increase revenue over the long term. However, as investment returns always depend on a variety of factors, such as market conditions and asset allocation, the State Treasurer's Office (STO) cannot estimate the difference in investment revenues for each fiscal year. Finally, there may be individual years when the returns could potentially be less than they would have been as currently invested.

Investing these funds in a manner separate from investments of other funds will necessitate additional management, tracking and accounting by the STO. Since much of the financial tracking and accounting is currently taking place on spreadsheets prepared internally, this will entail additional financial analysis and recordkeeping by the STO investment and accounting staff. The STO is requesting no additional staff or funds to perform the additional workload required in the bill. However, the addition of other funds to this pool will likely result in the need for additional staff and resources in the STO.

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