

ANALYSIS OF THE FOUNDATION AID STABILIZATION FUND FOR THE 2007-09 BIENNIUM

	2007-09 Biennium	
Beginning balance - July 1, 2007		\$29,009,838
Add estimated revenues		
Oil extraction tax allocations	\$22,702,097 ¹	
Total available		51,711,935
Less estimated expenditures and transfers		
Transfer to foundation aid program	\$0 ²	
Estimated ending balance - June 30, 2009		\$51,711,935

¹Estimated revenues - Based on actual oil extraction tax collections transferred to the fund through May 15, 2008, and estimated allocations for the remainder of the 2007-09 biennium per the February 2007 revenue forecast.

²Estimated expenditures - As provided in Article X, Section 24, of the Constitution of North Dakota, the principal of the foundation aid stabilization fund can only be used to offset foundation aid reductions made by executive action due to a revenue shortfall. No foundation aid reductions as a result of a revenue shortfall are currently anticipated for the 2007-09 biennium.

NOTE: The estimated June 30, 2009, balance made at the end of the 2007 legislative session was \$45,123,326. The increase in the estimated balance of \$6,588,609 is due to the increased oil activity resulting in the actual July 1, 2007, balance of \$29,009,838 being \$877,093 more than the July 1, 2007, balance estimated at the close of the 2007 legislative session of \$28,132,745 and the 2007-09 estimated revenues of \$22,702,097 being \$5,711,516 more than projected revenues of \$16,990,581.

FUND HISTORY

The foundation aid stabilization fund was created in 1994 when the voters of North Dakota approved a constitutional amendment, now Article X, Section 24, of the Constitution of North Dakota, to provide that 20 percent of oil extraction tax revenue be allocated as follows:

- Fifty percent (of the 20 percent) to the common schools trust fund.
- **Fifty percent (of the 20 percent) to the foundation aid stabilization fund.**

The principal of the foundation aid stabilization fund may only be spent upon order of the Governor to offset foundation aid reductions made by executive action due to a revenue shortfall. North Dakota Century Code Section 54-44.1-12 provides that the director of the budget may order an allotment to control the rate of expenditures of state agencies. This section provides that an allotment must be made by specific fund and all departments and agencies that receive money from a fund must be allotted on a uniform percentage basis, except that appropriations for foundation aid, transportation aid, and special education aid may only be allotted to the extent that the allotment can be offset by transfers from the foundation aid stabilization fund.

Article X, Section 24, of the Constitution of North Dakota provides that the interest income of the foundation aid stabilization fund must be transferred to the general fund on July 1 of each year. However, the State Treasurer's office allocates the interest income to the general fund on a monthly basis. For the period July 1, 2007, through March 31, 2008, \$563,323 of interest from the foundation aid stabilization fund has been allocated to the general fund.