OVERVIEW: Section 12.6 of S.L. 2021-180 increases the amount of funds that the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) can expend each year from the Commercial Leaking Petroleum Underground Storage Tank Cleanup Fund (Commercial Fund) for assessment and cleanup of discharges or releases in situations where a responsible party has been identified and can demonstrate that undertaking the costs of assessment and cleanup will impose severe financial hardship. DEQ can expend up to $2 million per year from the Commercial Fund for these purposes, up from $1 million previously.

This section became effective July 1, 2021.