

Senate Bill 8

By: Senators Shafer of the 48th, Cagle of the 49th, Lamutt of the 21st, Seabaugh of the 28th, Mullis of the 53rd and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Part 1 of Article 4 of Chapter 12 of Title 45 of the Official Code of Georgia
2 Annotated, known as the "Budget Act," so as to eliminate provisions relating to the annual
3 continuation budget report; to provide for the periodic application of zero-base budgeting to
4 the budget process; to provide for analysis of departmental and program objectives; to
5 provide for consideration of alternative funding levels; to provide for departmental priority
6 lists; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

8 **SECTION 1.**

9 Part 1 of Article 4 of Chapter 12 of Title 45 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,
10 known as the "Budget Act," is amended by striking Code Section 45-12-75.1, relating to the
11 annual continuation budget report, and inserting in its place a new Code section to read as
12 follows:

13 "45-12-75.1.

14 ~~(a) On or before October 1 of 1994 and each year thereafter, the Governor, through the~~
15 ~~Office of Planning and Budget, shall prepare and submit to the Budgetary Responsibility~~
16 ~~Oversight Committee a continuation budget report. On or before May 1 of 1994 and every~~
17 ~~year thereafter, the Governor, through the Office of Planning and Budget, shall consult and~~
18 ~~coordinate with the chairperson of the Budgetary Responsibility Oversight Committee to~~
19 ~~develop a list of agencies and programs in agencies which will be included in the~~
20 ~~continuation budget report for the year. Each state department shall be included in the~~
21 ~~continuation budget report not less than once every five years. The continuation budget~~
22 ~~report shall contain a detailed analysis of the funds necessary to provide services in the~~
23 ~~current fiscal year for each state agency and program examined. Such report shall address~~
24 ~~all programs and shall include a description of the purposes and accomplishments of the~~
25 ~~programs.~~

1 ~~(b) The committee shall consider the budget report prepared pursuant to this Code section~~
2 ~~in conjunction with the audit report prepared pursuant to paragraph (4) of Code Section~~
3 ~~50-6-24.~~

4 ~~(c) The committee shall submit to the membership of the General Assembly within one~~
5 ~~week of the convening of each regular session of the General Assembly a list of all~~
6 ~~programs included in the continuation budget report for each department examined as well~~
7 ~~as actions recommended, if any, by the committee.~~

8 ~~(d) It is the intent of this Code section to examine all state departments not less than once~~
9 ~~every five years.~~

10 (a) The Governor in preparing his or her budget report under Code Section 45-12-75, and
11 budget units in preparing their budget estimates under Code Section 45-12-78, shall make
12 use of zero-base budgeting as provided in this Code section. The requirements of this Code
13 section shall apply with respect to the budget report presented to the General Assembly in
14 January of 2004 and each fourth year thereafter, it being the intent of this Code section that
15 each Governor shall during the second year of his or her term present a budget report which
16 incorporates zero-base budgeting.

17 (b) In the years in which zero-base budgeting applies, each budget unit shall include in its
18 budget estimate an analysis summarizing past and proposed spending plans by program and
19 the means of financing the proposed plans. Information presented shall include the
20 following:

21 (1) A statement of the budget unit's departmental and program objectives, effectiveness
22 measures, and program size indicators;

23 (2) At least three alternative funding levels for each program with effectiveness measures
24 and program size indicators detailed for each alternative funding level; and

25 (3) A priority listing encompassing all alternative funding levels for all programs.

26 (c) In the years in which zero-base budgeting applies, the Governor shall include in the
27 budget report relevant materials related to each budget unit's submission under
28 subsection (b) of this Code section and such other relevant material as deemed appropriate
29 by the Governor."

30 SECTION 2.

31 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.