

Senate Bill 12

By: Senator Shafer of the 48th

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 revising Code Section 45-12-75.1, relating to the  
11 annual continuation budget report, to read as follows:

12 "45-12-75.1.

13 (a) On or before October 1 of 1994 and each year thereafter, the Governor, through the  
14 Office of Planning and Budget, shall prepare and submit to the Budgetary Responsibility  
15 Oversight Committee a continuation budget report. On or before May 1 of 1994 and every  
16 year thereafter, the Governor, through the Office of Planning and Budget, shall consult and  
17 coordinate with the chairperson of the Budgetary Responsibility Oversight Committee to  
18 develop a list of agencies and programs in agencies which will be included in the  
19 continuation budget report for the year. Each state department shall be included in the  
20 continuation budget report not less than once every five years. The continuation budget  
21 report shall contain a detailed analysis of the funds necessary to provide services in the  
22 current fiscal year for each state agency and program examined. Such report shall address  
23 all programs and shall include a description of the purposes and accomplishments of the  
24 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 50-6-24.

3 (c) The committee shall prepare a list of all programs included in the continuation budget  
4 report for each department examined as well as actions recommended, if any, by the  
5 committee. Within one week of the convening of each regular session of the General  
6 Assembly, the committee shall notify the members of the availability of the list in the  
7 manner which it deems to be most effective and efficient.

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

10 (e) 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 2008 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 (f) 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 (g) 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 (f) 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.