

Senate Bill 12

By: Senators Shafer of the 48th, Rogers of the 21st, Hill of the 4th, Goggans of the 7th,
Moody of the 56th and others

AS PASSED SENATE

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

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

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

SECTION 1.

Part 1 of Article 4 of Chapter 12 of Title 45 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, known as the "Budget Act," is amended by revising Code Section 45-12-75.1, relating to the annual continuation budget report, to read as follows:

"45-12-75.1.

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

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

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

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

(a) The Governor in preparing his or her budget report under Code Section 45-12-75, and budget units in preparing their budget estimates under Code Section 45-12-78, shall make use of zero-base budgeting as provided in this Code section. The requirements of this Code section shall apply with respect to the budget report presented to the General Assembly in January of 2008 and each year thereafter.

(b) It is the intent of this Code section that in any given year the Governor's budget report shall include zero-base budgeting for no less than one quarter of all the programs in the most recently passed General Appropriations Act. The Office of Planning and Budget shall determine which programs shall submit zero-base budget recommendations in each year, except that no program shall use zero-base budgeting more often than once every four years.

(c) In the years in which zero-base budgeting applies, each budget unit shall include in its budget estimate an analysis summarizing past and proposed spending plans by program and revenue source. Information presented shall include the following:

(1) A statement of the budget unit's departmental and program purposes; effectiveness, efficiency, and equity measures; and program size indicators;

(2) At least three alternative funding levels for each program and revenue source with effectiveness, efficiency, and equity measures and program size indicators detailed for each alternative funding level; and

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

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

SECTION 2.

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