# **BUDGET POLICY CHOICES II**

A Report Prepared for the Legislative Finance Committee

LFD Staff

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## INTRODUCTION

In December 2015 the Legislative Finance Committee (LFC) voted unanimously to accept the FY 2017 Executive Modified Budget as the base budget for the 2017 Budget Analysis. The executive has agreed to submit the budget with the same base. Although the same base will be used, certain details like personal services comparisons and Zero Based budgeting methods need to be determined. This report will describe the pre-budget analysis process and offer options for the methods and comparisons for the LFC's recommendation.

# **PRE-BUDGET ANALYSIS PROCESS**

The Legislative Fiscal Division (LFD) will provide the following analysis and documentation:

June 2016 LFC meeting: A table like "Appendix A" of the BSR will illustrate the draft overview of the Executive Modified Budget in comparison to the Legislative Budget.

September 2016 LFC meeting: A report describing the differences between the Executive Modified Budget and the Legislative Budget will contain two types of tables and narrative. The two tables are: 1) supporting tables to be included with the Budget Analysis as described in the Senator Jones motion in December 2015 and 2) table of additional supporting detail to describe changes.

Budget Analysis: The LFD will include comparison tables in the Budget Analysis to describe any differences between the Executive and Legislative Budgets for FY 2017. An example table format is shown in Appendix A of this report.

## **OPTIONS FOR LFC**

With the base budget determined, this report addresses two areas that the LFD is requesting LFC direction on: the method and calculation of both Personal Services Comparisons and Zero Based budgeting.

# **Personal Services Comparisons**

Last interim the LFC requested that the Budget Analysis compare the Legislative Personal Services Budget to the Executive Personal Services Budget. In the last Budget Analysis, this comparison was accomplished by determining the difference between the anticipated personal services costs based on previous legislative action and the Executive personal services

amount. This change package was

<u>Legislative Personal Services</u>
<u>Budget:</u> previous biennium
personal services budget, with
adjustment for full year funding
of the pay plan and health
insurance and other standard
costs.

Executive Personal Services Budget: the executive request for personal services for the upcoming biennium before adjustments for caseloads and new proposals.

separated into adjustments for full year funding of the pay plan and health insurance and other standard costs as anticipated by the legislature. Any amounts that remained were mainly management decisions, like pay reclassifications, which agencies explained.

Agencies had three concerns with the comparison: 1) the change in the base budget caused funding problems and confusion, 2) the LFD did not clearly describe how the standard Legislative amounts were calculated, and 3) the timeframe and communication was compressed.

In order to continue to provide comparisons of Personal Services Budgets, the LFD is proposing the following methodology. The LFC and the Executive have agreed to use the same base budget, so

there should be no differences in base personal services costs or funding, allowing the focus to be made on the incremental change in personal services.

- 1) In order to clearly articulate all calculations, the LFD will calculate the Legislative Personal Services Budget using the 2017 Allocated Legislative Budget as described in the Budget Status Report Appendix A. This information will be provided with explanations of the calculation to agencies for detailed comparison purposes.
- 2) In order to allow agencies time to understand the LFD calculations, the LFD will complete the calculations by September 15, 2016. Summary results and comparisons to the executive calculations could be presented at the September LFC meeting.
- 3) The LFD would be open to agency feedback until October 15, 2016, with the LFD making adjustments up until November 1.

The LFC has two options for presentation in the Budget Analysis:

- 1. The LFD could provide supporting tables to compare the base, to the Executive Personal Services Budget and the Legislative Personal Services Budget. See Table 2 of the example of the proposed supporting tables for the Budget Analysis in Appendix B of this report.
- 2. The second option is to create change packages to adjust base budgets to the legislative Personal Services Budget and a second change package comprised of the remainder to total to the Executive Personal Services Budget. See Table 3 of the example of the proposed change packages for the Budget Analysis in Appendix B of this report.

# Zero Based Budgeting

In the 2015 session, the legislature applied the one-time-only (OTO) restriction to almost the entire budgets of the Office of Public Defender and the Department of Livestock. The purpose of this effort was for the 2017 legislature to apply closer examination to the expenditures and subsequent budgets of the Office of Public Defender and the Department of Livestock.

Per Section 5 of HB 2, these appropriations cannot be part of the base or starting point. This means the agency's budget could start at zero, or more commonly known as Zero Based budgeting. Zero Based budgeting is an approach to planning and decision-making that changes the working process of the legislature's traditional budgeting method. Incremental budgeting requires justification of variances to the base budget. Zero Based requires justification from zero. While a valid budget technique, Zero Based budgeting does create a few challenges.

There are two concerns with this process:

1) While these budgets are labeled OTO, the majority of expenditures are clearly ongoing. This could cause concern if the base portion of the budget was not used in calculating structural balance. Structural balance is a key tool the legislature uses to maintain ongoing expenditures with ongoing revenues.

The 2015 session addressed this concern, by including these OTO appropriations on the status sheets in a separate calculation of structural balance. This allowed for the accounting of OTO appropriations and included the expenditures in the structural balance.

2) The OTO label on a statutorily required program creates a conflict within the statutory definition of "Present law base". The definition requires both the inclusion of the level of service necessary to maintain statutorily required caseloads (referred to as current service level or CSL) and to eliminate non-recurring (OTO) appropriations.

MCA 17-7-102 (10) "Present law base" means that level of funding needed under present law to maintain operations and services at the level authorized by the previous legislature, including but not limited to:

- a) changes resulting from legally mandated workload, caseload, or enrollment increases or decreases:
- b) changes in funding requirements resulting from constitutional or statutory schedules or formulas;
- c) inflationary or deflationary adjustments; and
- d) elimination of nonrecurring appropriations.

The LFD discussed with the executive that the 2017 OTO appropriations should be eliminated from the base budget, and that present law change packages will be created to potentially restore the agency's budget to the current service level. The LFD intends to make note of the statutory conflict, but will not raise issue with defining these change packages as present law.

Current statute provides a process and requirements for the executive budget submission. The statutes do not address the Zero Based budget approach. As it stands, the executive budget submission will follow 17-7-102, with the agreed upon exception as stated in the previous paragraph. The most current piece of legislation that addressed Zero Based budgeting was HB 343 of the 2011 legislative session (appendix C) sponsored by Representative Rob Cook. This piece of legislation detailed what information was to be submitted to the legislature when a Zero Based budget was involved. Some requirements are similar to current law, but additional information such as legal justification for services and the priority ranking of such services were included. HB 343 could be used as a basis for creating the presentation method for these agencies. Is the LFC interested in the LFD, OBPP and the impacted agencies working together to make recommendations at the June LFC meeting on how these agencies will present their budgets?

# Zero Based Budgeting beyond the 2017 Budget

The LFC has expressed interest in creating a long-term mechanism to address the legislative need to require increased budget scrutiny for certain agencies. The LFD has developed three choices for the LFC to consider:

1. HB 2 Language only
A new designation and boiler plate language could be added to HB 2 to define "Zero Base" or
other definition to define and explain how the legislature would consider Zero Base in the next
biennium.

Current language in Section 5 of HB 2:

Section 5. Appropriation control. An appropriation item designated "Biennial" may be spent in either year of the biennium. An appropriation item designated "Restricted" may be used during the biennium only for the purpose designated by its title and as presented to the legislature. An appropriation item designated "One Time Only" or "OTO" may not be included in the present law base for the 2019 biennium. The office of budget and program planning shall establish a separate appropriation on the statewide accounting, budgeting, and human resource system for any item designated "Biennial", "Restricted", "One Time Only", or "OTO". The office of budget and program planning shall establish at least one appropriation on the statewide accounting,

budgeting, and human resource system for any appropriation that appears as a separate line item in [this act].

An additional sentence could be added to HB 2:

"An appropriation item designated "Zero Based" may not be included in the base budget for the 2021 biennium."

The advantages to this approach are: 1) it is simple and 2) would not require separate legislation. The disadvantages are that it is inconsistent with statute and like the current OTO designation used for the Office of Public Defender and Department of Livestock, it does not have a budget process for budget submission.

The inconsistency with statute is noted below. The definition of base budget is to include Zero Based items that were only designated as such in HB 2.

(4) (a) "Base budget" means the resources for the operation of state government that are of an ongoing and nonextraordinary nature in the current biennium. The base budget for the state general fund and state special revenue funds may not exceed that level of funding authorized by the previous legislature.

#### 2. HB 2 and temporary companion bill

A temporary statutory change using HB 2 language and a companion bill would create the opportunity to experiment with changes to statute without making the changes permanent.

#### 3. Permanent statutory change

A permanent change in statute such as HB 343 from the 2011 Session would also be an option for the legislature. (Appendix C)

#### Summary of Choices

- 1) Does the format of the proposed table, Appendix A, describing the changes in Executive Modified FY 2017 from the 2017 Legislative Budget adequately address the LFC interest? And does the format provide sufficient information for subcommittee use?
- 2) Personal Service Comparisons in the Budget Analysis will be shown:
  - a. By summary tables (Table 2 Appendix B)
  - b. By change packages (Table 3 Appendix B)
- 3) Zero Based budgeting in the 2019 Biennium / 2017 Session
  - a. The LFC does not wish to work with the Executive to determine the format of the Zero Base budget submission and will accept the Executive format
  - b. The LFC and LFD will work with OBPP to develop a budget format for the 2017 Session
- 4) The LFC recommends recognizing Zero Based budgeting in the future through
  - a. Using HB 2 language only to define Zero Based Budgeting
  - b. Using HB 2 and a companion bill to define Zero Based Budgeting
  - c. Using a bill to change statute and define Zero Based Budgeting

# APPENDIX A: COMPARISIONS OF EXECUTIVE MODIFIED BUDGET TO LEGISLATIVE BUDGET

		Departmer	nt of Fish, Wildli	fe, and Pa	rks, 03-Fis	heries			
	Fis	cal Year 20	17 Appropriation	n Allocatio	ns and Mo	dification	S		
Budget Item	FY 2017 Legislative HB2	Pay and CB Allocations	Reorganizations	Program Transfers	Operating Plan Changes	Other Changes	FY 2017 Exec. Modified Budget	Total Allocations & Modification	Allocation & Modification %
FTE	\$174.65	-	-	-	-	-	\$174.65	-	0.00%
Personal Services	11,441,687	609,281	-	-	50,000	(1,917)	12,099,051	657,364	5.75%
Operating Expenses Equipment & Intangible	5,193,743	-	-	-	(50,000)	55,830	5,199,573	5,830	0.11%
Assets	370,455	-	-	-	-	-	370,455	-	0.00%
Transfers	2,392		<u> </u>		<u> </u>	<u>-</u>	2,392	<u>-</u>	0.00%
Total Costs	\$17,008,277	\$609,281	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$53,913	\$17,671,471	\$663,194	3.90%
General Fund State/Other Special Rev.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.00%
Funds	7,530,738	265,443	-	-	-	29,107	7,825,288	294,550	3.91%
Federal Special Rev. Funds	9,477,539	<u>343,838</u>	<del>-</del>			24,806	9,846,183	368,644	3.89%
Total Funds	\$17,008,277	\$609,281	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$53,913	\$17,671,471	\$663,194	3.90%

# APPENDIX B: PERSONAL SERVICES COMPARISION

# **Legislative Budget Personal Services Calculations**

The Legislative Budget amount includes: annualizing the increases contained in SB 419 of \$0.50 per employee per hour and the increase in health insurance for calendar year 2017 and other required changes such as unemployment, worker's compensation insurance, and the statutory increase in pension contributions.

The following table illustrates the calculations for the Legislative Personal Services Budget.

			Table	e 1			
	FY 2016 Actual Expenditures	FY 2017 Executive Modfied Base	Annualized Pay Plan	Annualized Health Insurance	Other (UI, Work comp, PERS, hours)	FY 2018 Legislative Budget	FY 2019 Legislative Budget
FTE	45	47				47	47
Personal Services	\$2,790,000	\$2,914,000	\$24,440	\$4,982	\$100	\$2,943,522	\$2,973,044

Budget Analysis Option Table 2: Budget Analysis compares Executive and Legislative calculations The table in the Budget Analysis could compare the Executive Budget to the Legislative Budget. In the example table below the Executive Budget is approximately \$118,000 each year of the biennium higher than the legislative anticipated amount. In practice, the Executive Budget could be above or below the Legislative Budget.

			Ta	ıble 2				
		Pers	sonal Service	s Budget Co	mparison			
	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2018		FY 2019	FY 2019	
	Actual	Executive	Legislative	Executive		Legislative	Executive	
	Expenditures	Modfied Base	Budget	Budget	Difference	Budget	Budget	Difference
FTE	45	47	47	47	7	47	47	
Personal Services	\$2,790,000	\$2,914,000	\$2,943,522	\$3,061,263	\$117,741	\$2,973,044	\$3,091,966	\$118,922

Budget Analysis Options Table 3: Budget Analysis contains change package options similar to the 2015 Session

The Executive Personal Services Budget request could be split into two change packages. One change package, CP 10, would reflect the Legislative Budget and a second change package, CP 20, could represent the difference to the Executive Budget Personal Services Budget.

Table 3		
Change Package	FY 2018	FY 2019
CP 10: Legislative Personal Services Budget adjustment	\$29,422	\$29,422
CP 20: Change to the Executive Personal Serices Budget request	\$88,315	\$89,492

1	HOUSE BILL NO. 343
2	INTRODUCED BY COOK, WELBORN, HALE, EHLI
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4	A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT REVISING LAWS REGARDING THE BUDGETING AND
5	APPROPRIATIONS PROCESS; REQUIRING ZERO-BASED BUDGETING FOR CERTAIN STATE AGENCIES:
6	REQUIRING THAT CERTAIN STATE AGENCIES SUBMIT REQUESTS FOR APPROPRIATIONS BASED ON
7	CERTAIN COST-EFFECTIVE TASKS, GOALS, AND OBJECTIVES WITHOUT REGARD TO PRIOR
8	APPROPRIATIONS; ESTABLISHING SUBMISSION DEADLINES FOR PREPARATION OF BUDGETS;
9	REVISING THE FORM OF THE EXECUTIVE BUDGET TO INCLUDE ZERO-BASED BUDGETING; AMENDING
10	SECTIONS 5-12-303, 5-13-402, 17-7-102, 17-7-111, 17-7-112, AND 17-7-123, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN
11	EFFECTIVE DATE AND AN APPLICABILITY DATE."
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13	BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:
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15	NEW SECTION. Section 1. Zero-based budget process. (1) This section applies to agencies and
16	divisions that are selected by the legislature for inclusion in the zero-based budget process as provided in
17	subsection (4). An agency or division that is selected shall prepare the information required by this section as a
18	separate process from the other budgeting procedures set forth in this chapter.
19	(2) The zero-based budget request must set forth the amount of funding necessary to achieve the most
20	cost-effective performance. The zero-based budget request must consist of:
21	(a) a schedule of the estimated receipts and solvency of each fund or account for the subsequent
22	biennium;
23	(b) a statement of the agency or division mission and a statement of goals and objectives for each
24	program that are intended to be accomplished as a result of the agency's request. The goals and objectives must
25	include, in a concise form, sufficient specific information and quantifiable information to enable the legislature to
26	formulate an appropriations policy regarding the agency and its programs and to allow a determination, at some
27	future date, of whether the agency has succeeded in attaining its goals and objectives.
28	(c) a statement delineating by program each of the various activities and services to be performed as
29	a result of the request;
30	(d) a description by program of the methodology and approach used to carry out each activity or service;

(e) a compilation enumerating by program the statutory and regulatory provisions that establish the agency's legal authority, if any, to perform each activity or service;

- (f) an itemized estimate of spending and full-time equivalent personnel positions (FTE) required to maintain each activity or service at its current level of performance together with an evaluation by program of the quality and quantity of services provided:
- (g) a projected estimate of spending and FTE required to maintain each activity or service at the minimum level of service required by statutory or regulatory authority, together with an evaluation by program of the quality and quantity of services required at that level;
- (h) a statement identifying each group, stakeholder, or community affected or intended to be affected by each activity or service and a quantitative estimate by program of any adverse effects that reasonably may be expected to result if the activity or service is eliminated. The statement must contain a description of the methods by which the adverse effects were estimated.
- (i) a statement detailing by program any other state, federal, or local units of government that administer a similar activity or service and an outline describing the interaction, if any, among the departments and agencies;
- (j) a statement prioritizing by numerical ranking the activities or services within each program carried out by the agency with respect to each activity's or service's capacity to fulfill the agency's stated goals and objectives during the ensuing biennium. If a division is selected for inclusion in the zero-based budget process, the numerical ranking is based on the activities or services within each program carried out by the division.
- (k) a statement prioritizing by numerical ranking the programs carried out by the agency with respect to the agency's stated goals and objectives during the ensuing biennium. If a division is selected for inclusion in the zero-based budget process, the numerical ranking is based on each program carried out by the division.
  - (I) an estimate of legislative audit cost for the ensuing biennium as required by 5-13-402;
- (m) recommendations to the legislature regarding whether the legislature should continue funding each activity or service and, if so, an itemized spending request by program for the ensuing biennium;
- (n) a reference for each new information technology proposal stating whether the new proposal is included in the approved agency information technology plan as required in 2-17-523;
  - (o) energy cost saving information as required by 90-4-616; and
  - (p) other information the budget director feels is necessary for the preparation of a zero-based budget.
- (3) The budget director and representatives of selected agencies and divisions expending or applying for state money may, and when requested by either the house of representatives or the senate shall, appear and



1 present a zero-based budget request that complies with this section and 17-7-123(2).

(4) (a) For budget requests pertaining to funding for state fiscal years 2014 and 2015, the following agencies and division shall justify a request for appropriation by utilizing the zero-based budget process:

- 4 (i) the department of agriculture;
- 5 (ii) the department of justice;
- 6 (iii) the department of transportation;
- 7 (iv) the legislative branch;
- 8 (v)(ı) the Montana arts council;
- 9 (vi)(II) the Montana historical society;
- 10 (vii)(III) the Montana state library commission; AND
- 11 (viii) the office of state auditor;
- 12  $\frac{(ix)}{(iv)}$  the office of state public defender; and.
- 13 (x) the public health and safety division in the department of public health and human services.
  - (b) In addition to any study the legislature may authorize pursuant to 20-9-309(5), for the budget request pertaining to funding for state fiscal years 2016 and 2017, the following agencies shall justify a request for appropriation by utilizing the zero-based budget process:
- 17 (i) the board of public education;
- 18 (ii) the office of superintendent of public instruction; and
- 19 (iii) the Montana school for the deaf and blind.
  - (C) FOR PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION, "PROGRAM" HAS THE MEANING PROVIDED IN 17-7-102 UNLESS THE GOVERNOR'S BUDGET DIRECTOR AND THE LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ANALYST REACH AN AGREEMENT TO DEFINE THE TERM DIFFERENTLY FOR A SPECIFIC AGENCY'S ZERO-BASED BUDGET SUBMISSION.

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- **Section 2.** Section 5-12-303, MCA, is amended to read:
- "5-12-303. Fiscal analysis information from state agencies. (1) The legislative fiscal analyst may investigate and examine the costs and revenue of state government activities and may examine and obtain copies of the records, books, and files of any state agency, including confidential records.
- (2) When confidential records and information are obtained from a state agency, the legislative fiscal analyst and staff must be subject to the same penalties for unauthorized disclosure of the confidential records and information provided for under the laws administered by the state agency. The legislative fiscal analyst shall

develop policies to prevent the unauthorized disclosure of confidential records and information obtained from state agencies.

- (3) (a) The department of revenue shall make Montana individual income tax information available by removing names, addresses, and social security numbers and substituting in their place a state accounting record identifier number. Except for the purposes of complying with federal law, the department may not alter the data in any other way.
- (b) The department of revenue shall provide the name and address of a taxpayer on written request of the legislative fiscal analyst when the values on the requested return, including estimated payments, are considered necessary by the legislative fiscal analyst to properly analyze state revenue and are of a sufficient magnitude to materially affect the analysis and when the identity of the taxpayer is necessary to evaluate the effect of the return or payments on the analysis being performed.
- (4) Within 1 day after the legislative finance committee presents its budget analysis to the legislature, the budget director and the legislative fiscal analyst shall exchange expenditure and disbursement recommendations by second-level expenditure detail and by funding sources detailed by accounting entity. This information must be filed in the respective offices and be made available to the legislature and the public. In preparing the budget analysis for the next biennium for submission to the legislature, the legislative fiscal analyst shall use the base budget, the present law base, and new proposals as defined in 17-7-102 and analyze zero-based budget requests using the information required by [section 1(2)].
- (5) This section does not authorize publication or public disclosure of information if the law prohibits publication or disclosure or if the department of revenue notifies the fiscal analyst that specified records or information may contain confidential information."

**Section 3.** Section 5-13-402, MCA, is amended to read:

"5-13-402. Audit costs. (1) Prior to July 1 of each even-numbered year, the legislative auditor shall advise each agency and the budget director of the estimated audit costs for the following biennium. Each agency shall include the estimated audit costs in its proposed budget and zero-based budget submitted to the budget director pursuant to 17-7-112 and [section 1]. The budget director shall notify the legislative auditor if the executive budget recommendation to the legislature for audit costs differs from that proposed by the legislative auditor.

(2) Not later than 60 days after adjournment of each legislature, the budget director shall provide to the



1 legislative auditor a schedule reflecting, by fund, amounts appropriated to each agency for audit costs.

(3) The legislative auditor shall bill agencies for audit services that the legislative auditor considers necessary. The legislative auditor may not bill an agency for audit services in excess of amounts appropriated for audit services. Additional audit-related services may be provided by the legislative auditor at a cost agreed to by an agency and billed to the agency."

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- Section 4. Section 17-7-102, MCA, is amended to read:
- 8 "17-7-102. (Temporary) Definitions. As used in this chapter, the following definitions apply:
- 9 (1) "Additional services" means different services or more of the same services.
  - (2) "Agency" means all offices, departments, boards, commissions, institutions, universities, colleges, and any other person or any other administrative unit of state government that spends or encumbers public money by virtue of an appropriation from the legislature under 17-8-101.
- 13 (3) "Approving authority" means:
  - (a) the governor or the governor's designated representative for executive branch agencies;
- (b) the chief justice of the supreme court or the chief justice's designated representative for judicialbranch agencies;
  - (c) the speaker for the house of representatives;
- 18 (d) the president for the senate;
- (e) appropriate legislative committees or a designated representative for legislative branch agencies;
- 20 or

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- (f) the board of regents of higher education or its designated representative for the university system.
- (4) (a) "Base budget" means the resources for the operation of state government that are of an ongoing and nonextraordinary nature in the current biennium. The base budget for the state general fund and state special revenue funds may not exceed that level of funding authorized by the previous legislature. For the biennium beginning July 1, 2011, the term includes items specified in section 85, Chapter 489, Laws of 2009.
- (b) The term does not include funding for water adjudication if the accountability benchmarks contained
   in 85-2-271 are not met.
  - (5) "Budget amendment" means a temporary appropriation as provided in Title 17, chapter 7, part 4.
  - (6) "Emergency" means a catastrophe, disaster, calamity, or other serious unforeseen and unanticipated circumstance that has occurred subsequent to the time that an agency's appropriation was made, that was clearly



1 not within the contemplation of the legislature and the governor, and that affects one or more functions of a state 2 agency and the agency's expenditure requirements for the performance of the function or functions.

- (7) "Funds subject to appropriation" means those funds required to be paid out of the treasury as set forth in 17-8-101.
  - (8) "Necessary" means essential to the public welfare and of a nature that cannot wait until the next legislative session for legislative consideration.
  - (9) "New proposals" means requests to provide new nonmandated services, to change program services, to eliminate existing services, or to change sources of funding. For purposes of establishing the present law base, the distinction between new proposals and the adjustments to the base budget to develop the present law base is to be determined by the existence of constitutional or statutory requirements for the proposed expenditure. Any proposed increase or decrease that is not based on those requirements is considered a new proposal.
  - (10) (a) "Present law base" means, subject to subsection (10)(b), that level of funding needed under present law to maintain operations and services at the level authorized by the previous legislature, including but not limited to:
    - (i) changes resulting from legally mandated workload, caseload, or enrollment increases or decreases;
    - (ii) changes in funding requirements resulting from constitutional or statutory schedules or formulas;
- (iii) inflationary or deflationary adjustments;
- 19 (iv) elimination of nonrecurring appropriations; and
- 20 (v) items specified in section 85, Chapter 489, Laws of 2009.
  - (b) For the budget for the 2011 legislative session, present law base must be adjusted by reducing general fund budgets by the equivalent of that portion of the 2% across-the-board reduction assessed by the 61st legislature on selected agencies that was allocated by those agencies to personal services in the 2011 biennium. The director of the governor's office of budget and program planning and the legislative fiscal analyst shall agree on a mechanism for determining how agencies have allocated this reduction.
    - (11) "Program" means a principal organizational or budgetary unit within an agency.
- 27 (12) "Requesting agency" means the agency of state government that has requested a specific budget 28 amendment.
  - (13) "University system unit" means the board of regents of higher education; office of the commissioner of higher education; university of Montana, with campuses at Missoula, Butte, Dillon, and Helena; Montana state



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1 university, with campuses at Bozeman, Billings, Havre, and Great Falls; the agricultural experiment station, with

- 2 central offices at Bozeman; the forest and conservation experiment station, with central offices at Missoula; the
- 3 cooperative extension service, with central offices at Bozeman; the bureau of mines and geology, with central
- 4 offices at Butte; the fire services training school at Great Falls; and the community colleges at Miles City,
- 5 Glendive, and Kalispell.
- 6 (14) "Zero-based budget" means an approach to developing and evaluating requests for appropriations
- 7 <u>based on the cost-effective achievement of the tasks, goals, and objectives of a particular agency without regard</u>
- 8 to prior appropriations.
- 9 (15) "Zero-based budget process" means a process of budgeting in which an agency's request for
- 10 appropriation is evaluated and justified, in whole or in part, based upon the cost-effective achievement of the
- 11 tasks, goals, and objectives of a particular agency without regard to prior appropriations. (Terminates June 30,
- 12 2011--sec. 35(1), Ch. 486, L. 2009; sec. 82, Ch. 489, L. 2009.)
- 13 **17-7-102.** (Effective July 1, 2011) Definitions. As used in this chapter, the following definitions apply:
- 14 (1) "Additional services" means different services or more of the same services.
- 15 (2) "Agency" means all offices, departments, boards, commissions, institutions, universities, colleges,
- and any other person or any other administrative unit of state government that spends or encumbers public
- money by virtue of an appropriation from the legislature under 17-8-101.
- 18 (3) "Approving authority" means:
- 19 (a) the governor or the governor's designated representative for executive branch agencies;
- 20 (b) the chief justice of the supreme court or the chief justice's designated representative for judicial
- 21 branch agencies;
- 22 (c) the speaker for the house of representatives;
- 23 (d) the president for the senate;
- 24 (e) appropriate legislative committees or a designated representative for legislative branch agencies;
- 25 or

- (f) the board of regents of higher education or its designated representative for the university system.
- 27 (4) (a) "Base budget" means the resources for the operation of state government that are of an ongoing
- and nonextraordinary nature in the current biennium. The base budget for the state general fund and state special
- 29 revenue funds may not exceed that level of funding authorized by the previous legislature.
  - (b) The term does not include funding for water adjudication if the accountability benchmarks contained

1 in 85-2-271 are not met.

- 2 (5) "Budget amendment" means a temporary appropriation as provided in Title 17, chapter 7, part 4.
  - (6) "Emergency" means a catastrophe, disaster, calamity, or other serious unforeseen and unanticipated circumstance that has occurred subsequent to the time that an agency's appropriation was made, that was clearly not within the contemplation of the legislature and the governor, and that affects one or more functions of a state agency and the agency's expenditure requirements for the performance of the function or functions.
  - (7) "Funds subject to appropriation" means those funds required to be paid out of the treasury as set forth in 17-8-101.
    - (8) "Necessary" means essential to the public welfare and of a nature that cannot wait until the next legislative session for legislative consideration.
    - (9) "New proposals" means requests to provide new nonmandated services, to change program services, to eliminate existing services, or to change sources of funding. For purposes of establishing the present law base, the distinction between new proposals and the adjustments to the base budget to develop the present law base is to be determined by the existence of constitutional or statutory requirements for the proposed expenditure. Any proposed increase or decrease that is not based on those requirements is considered a new proposal.
    - (10) "Present law base" means that level of funding needed under present law to maintain operations and services at the level authorized by the previous legislature, including but not limited to:
      - (a) changes resulting from legally mandated workload, caseload, or enrollment increases or decreases;
      - (b) changes in funding requirements resulting from constitutional or statutory schedules or formulas;
      - (c) inflationary or deflationary adjustments; and
- 22 (d) elimination of nonrecurring appropriations.
  - (11) "Program" means a principal organizational or budgetary unit within an agency.
  - (12) "Requesting agency" means the agency of state government that has requested a specific budget amendment.
  - (13) "University system unit" means the board of regents of higher education; office of the commissioner of higher education; university of Montana, with campuses at Missoula, Butte, Dillon, and Helena; Montana state university, with campuses at Bozeman, Billings, Havre, and Great Falls; the agricultural experiment station, with central offices at Bozeman; the forest and conservation experiment station, with central offices at Missoula; the cooperative extension service, with central offices at Bozeman; the bureau of mines and geology, with central



offices at Butte; the fire services training school at Great Falls; and the community colleges at Miles City,
Glendive, and Kalispell.

- (14) "Zero-based budget" means an approach to developing and evaluating requests for appropriations based on the cost-effective achievement of the tasks, goals, and objectives of a particular agency without regard to prior appropriations.
  - (15) "Zero-based budget process" means a process of budgeting in which an agency's request for appropriation is evaluated and justified, in whole or in part, based upon the cost-effective achievement of the tasks, goals, and objectives of a particular agency without regard to prior appropriations. (Terminates June 30, 2020--sec. 11, Ch. 319, L. 2007.)
- 10 **17-7-102. (Effective July 1, 2020) Definitions.** As used in this chapter, the following definitions apply:
- (1) "Additional services" means different services or more of the same services.
  - (2) "Agency" means all offices, departments, boards, commissions, institutions, universities, colleges, and any other person or any other administrative unit of state government that spends or encumbers public money by virtue of an appropriation from the legislature under 17-8-101.
    - (3) "Approving authority" means:
  - (a) the governor or the governor's designated representative for executive branch agencies;
- 17 (b) the chief justice of the supreme court or the chief justice's designated representative for judicial 18 branch agencies;
  - (c) the speaker for the house of representatives;
- 20 (d) the president for the senate;
- 21 (e) appropriate legislative committees or a designated representative for legislative branch agencies;
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- (f) the board of regents of higher education or its designated representative for the university system.
- (4) "Base budget" means the resources for the operation of state government that are of an ongoing and nonextraordinary nature in the current biennium. The base budget for the state general fund and state special revenue funds may not exceed that level of funding authorized by the previous legislature.
  - (5) "Budget amendment" means a temporary appropriation as provided in Title 17, chapter 7, part 4.
- (6) "Emergency" means a catastrophe, disaster, calamity, or other serious unforeseen and unanticipated circumstance that has occurred subsequent to the time that an agency's appropriation was made, that was clearly not within the contemplation of the legislature and the governor, and that affects one or more functions of a state

1 agency and the agency's expenditure requirements for the performance of the function or functions.

2 (7) "Funds subject to appropriation" means those funds required to be paid out of the treasury as set 3 forth in 17-8-101.

- (8) "Necessary" means essential to the public welfare and of a nature that cannot wait until the next legislative session for legislative consideration.
- (9) "New proposals" means requests to provide new nonmandated services, to change program services, to eliminate existing services, or to change sources of funding. For purposes of establishing the present law base, the distinction between new proposals and the adjustments to the base budget to develop the present law base is to be determined by the existence of constitutional or statutory requirements for the proposed expenditure. Any proposed increase or decrease that is not based on those requirements is considered a new proposal.
- (10) "Present law base" means that level of funding needed under present law to maintain operations and services at the level authorized by the previous legislature, including but not limited to:
  - (a) changes resulting from legally mandated workload, caseload, or enrollment increases or decreases;
  - (b) changes in funding requirements resulting from constitutional or statutory schedules or formulas;
  - (c) inflationary or deflationary adjustments; and
- (d) elimination of nonrecurring appropriations.
  - (11) "Program" means a principal organizational or budgetary unit within an agency.
- (12) "Requesting agency" means the agency of state government that has requested a specific budget amendment.
- (13) "University system unit" means the board of regents of higher education; office of the commissioner of higher education; university of Montana, with campuses at Missoula, Butte, Dillon, and Helena; Montana state university, with campuses at Bozeman, Billings, Havre, and Great Falls; the agricultural experiment station, with central offices at Bozeman; the forest and conservation experiment station, with central offices at Missoula; the cooperative extension service, with central offices at Bozeman; the bureau of mines and geology, with central offices at Butte; the fire services training school at Great Falls; and the community colleges at Miles City, Glendive, and Kalispell.
- (14) "Zero-based budget" means an approach to developing and evaluating requests for appropriations based on the cost-effective achievement of the tasks, goals, and objectives of a particular agency without regard to prior appropriations.



(15) "Zero-based budget process" means a process of budgeting in which an agency's request for appropriation is evaluated and justified, in whole or in part, based upon the cost-effective achievement of the tasks, goals, and objectives of a particular agency without regard to prior appropriations."

- **Section 5.** Section 17-7-111, MCA, is amended to read:
- "17-7-111. Preparation of state budget -- agency program budgets -- form distribution and contents. (1) (a) To prepare a state budget, the executive branch, the legislature, and the citizens of the state need information that is consistent and accurate. Necessary information includes detailed disbursements by fund type for each agency and program for the appropriate time period, recommendations for creating a balanced budget, and recommended disbursements and estimated receipts by fund type and fund category.
- (b) Subject to the requirements of this chapter, the budget director and the legislative fiscal analyst shall by agreement:
- (i) establish necessary standards, formats, and other matters necessary to share information between the agencies and to ensure that information is consistent and accurate for the preparation of the state's budget; and
- (ii) provide for the collection and provision of budgetary and financial information that is in addition to or different from the information otherwise required to be provided pursuant to this section and [section 1].
- (2) In the preparation of a state budget, the budget director shall, not later than the date specified in 17-7-112(1), distribute to all agencies the proper forms and instructions necessary for the preparation of budget estimates by the budget director. These forms must be prescribed by the budget director to procure the information required by subsection (3) and [section 1]. The forms must be submitted to the budget director by the date provided in 17-7-112(2), or the agency's budget is subject to preparation based upon estimates as provided in 17-7-112(5). The budget director may refuse to accept forms that do not comply with the provisions of this section or the instructions given for completing the forms.
- (3) Subject to subsections (7) and (8), the <u>The</u> agency budget request must set forth a balanced financial plan for the agency completing the forms for each fiscal year of the ensuing biennium. The plan must consist of:
- (a) a consolidated agency budget summary of funds subject to appropriation, as provided in 17-8-101, for the current base budget expenditures, including statutory appropriations, and for each present law adjustment and new proposal request setting forth the aggregate figures of the full-time equivalent personnel positions (FTE) and the budget, showing a balance between the total proposed disbursements and the total anticipated receipts,

together with the other means of financing the budget for each fiscal year of the ensuing biennium, contrasted with the corresponding figures for the last-completed fiscal year and the fiscal year in progress;

- (b) a schedule of the actual and projected receipts, disbursements, and solvency of each fund for the current biennium and estimated for the subsequent biennium;
- (c) a statement of the agency mission and a statement of goals and objectives for each program of the agency. The goals and objectives must include, in a concise form, sufficient specific information and quantifiable information to enable the legislature to formulate an appropriations policy regarding the agency and its programs and to allow a determination, at some future date, on whether the agency has succeeded in attaining its goals and objectives.
- (d) actual FTE and disbursements for the completed fiscal year of the current biennium, estimated FTE and disbursements for the current fiscal year, and the agency's request for the ensuing biennium, by program;
- (e) actual disbursements for the completed fiscal year of the current biennium, estimated disbursements for the current fiscal year, and the agency's recommendations for the ensuing biennium, by disbursement category;
- (f) for agencies with more than 20 FTE, a plan to reduce the proposed base budget for the general appropriations act and the proposed state pay plan to 95% of the current base budget or lower if directed by the budget director. Each agency plan must include base budget reductions that reflect the required percentage reduction by fund type for the general fund and state special revenue fund types. Exempt from the calculations of the 5% target amounts are legislative audit costs, administratively attached entities that hire their own staff under 2-15-121, and state special revenue accounts that do not transfer their investment earnings or fund balances to the general fund. The plan must include:
  - (i) a prioritized list of services that would be eliminated or reduced;
- (ii) for each service included in the prioritized list, the savings that would result from the elimination or reduction; and
  - (iii) the consequences or impacts of the proposed elimination or reduction of each service.
- (g) a reference for each new information technology proposal stating whether the new proposal is included in the approved agency information technology plan as required in 2-17-523;
  - (h) energy cost saving information as required by 90-4-616; and
  - (i) other information the budget director feels is necessary for the preparation of a budget.
    - (4) The budget director shall prepare and submit to the legislative fiscal analyst in accordance with



1 17-7-112:

- (a) detailed recommendations for the state long-range building program. Each recommendation must be presented by institution, agency, or branch, by funding source, with a description of each proposed project.
  - (b) a statewide project budget summary as provided in 2-17-526;
- (c) the proposed pay plan schedule for all executive branch employees at the program level by fund, with the specific cost and funding recommendations for each agency. Submission of a pay plan schedule under this subsection is not an unfair labor practice under 39-31-401.
  - (d) agency proposals for the use of cultural and aesthetic project grants under Title 22, chapter 2, part 3, the renewable resource grant and loan program under Title 85, chapter 1, part 6, the reclamation and development grants program under Title 90, chapter 2, part 11, and the treasure state endowment program under Title 90, chapter 6, part 7.
  - (5) The board of regents shall submit, with its budget request for each university unit in accordance with 17-7-112, a report on the university system bonded indebtedness and related finances as provided in this subsection (5). The report must include the following information for each year of the biennium, contrasted with the same information for the last-completed fiscal year and the fiscal year in progress:
    - (a) a schedule of estimated total bonded indebtedness for each university unit by bond indenture:
  - (b) a schedule of estimated revenue, expenditures, and fund balances by fiscal year for each outstanding bond indenture, clearly delineating the accounts relating to each indenture and the minimum legal funding requirements for each bond indenture; and
  - (c) a schedule showing the total funds available from each bond indenture and its associated accounts, with a list of commitments and planned expenditures from the accounts, itemized by revenue source and project for each year of the current and ensuing bienniums.
  - (6) (a) The department of revenue shall make Montana individual income tax information available by removing names, addresses, and social security numbers and substituting in their place a state accounting record identifier number. Except for the purposes of complying with federal law, the department may not alter the data in any other way.
  - (b) The department of revenue shall provide the name and address of a taxpayer on written request of the budget director when the values on the requested return, including estimated payments, are considered necessary by the budget director to properly analyze state revenue and are of a sufficient magnitude to materially affect the analysis and when the identity of the taxpayer is necessary to evaluate the effect of the return or



1 payments on the analysis being performed.

(7) (a) The department of public health and human services' budget request for the 2013 biennium must identify changes necessary to reduce the 2013 biennium expenditures to the level funded in the general appropriations act. The department may include changes such as reducing administrative costs, developing more cost-efficient methods to deliver services, limiting the number of medicaid services that adults may receive, changing medicaid services included in the Montana medicaid state plan, changing eligibility or level-of-care requirements for medicaid waiver services, limiting or changing services that are fully state-funded, or implementing other initiatives that reduce state funds. Achieving the necessary general fund reduction in the 2013 biennium budget request may not include shifting costs to state special revenue funds.

- (b) The department of public health and human services shall prepare a work plan with goals, milestones, and measures to guide its review of alternatives to identify, evaluate, and select initiatives to reduce ongoing state spending in its 2013 biennium budget submission. The department shall submit the work plan, goals, milestones, and measures to the legislative finance committee at its first meeting after the adjournment of the 2009 legislative session for its review and comment. The department shall provide an update of its budget reduction for review and comment at each legislative finance committee meeting in a format developed with and agreed upon by the committee.
- (8) Each agency budget request for the 2013 biennium must include the adjustments to present law base specified in 17-7-102(10)(b).
- (7) Agencies that are selected for inclusion in the zero-based budget process as provided in [section 1(4)] shall prepare the information required by this section as a separate process from the procedures set forth in [section 1]."

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- **Section 6.** Section 17-7-112, MCA, is amended to read:
- "17-7-112. Submission deadlines -- budgeting schedule. The following is the schedule for the preparation of a state budget for submission to the legislature convening in the following year:
- 26 (1) By August 1, forms necessary for preparation of budget estimates must be distributed pursuant to 17-7-111(2). 27
- 28 (2) (a) Except as provided in subsection subsections (2)(b) and (2)(c), by September 1, each agency shall submit the information required under 17-7-111 to the budget director.
  - (b) By September 1, the consolidated legislative branch shall submit a preliminary draft of the information



required under 17-7-111 to the budget director. By October 10, the consolidated legislative branch shall submit the information required under 17-7-111 in final form to the budget director.

- (c) By September 1, each agency that is selected for inclusion in the zero-based budget process pursuant to [section 1(4)] shall submit the information required under 17-7-111 and [section 1] to the budget director.
- (3) By September 1, the budget director shall submit each state agency's budget request, except the budget request for the consolidated legislative branch, required under 17-7-111(3) and [section 1] to the legislative fiscal analyst. The transfer of budget information must be done on a schedule mutually agreed to by the budget director and the legislative fiscal analyst in a manner that facilitates an even transfer of budget information that allows each office to maintain a reasonable staff workflow.
- (4) (a) By October 10, the budget director shall furnish the legislative fiscal analyst with a preliminary budget reflecting the base budget in a format agreed upon by both the office of budget and program planning and the legislative fiscal analyst.
- (b) By October 10, the budget director shall furnish the legislative fiscal analyst with a preliminary zero-based budget reflecting the information required by [section 1] for each agency that is selected for inclusion in the zero-based budget process pursuant to [section 1(4)]. The preliminary zero-based budget must be separate and distinct from the preliminary budget in subsection (4)(a) and must be presented in a format agreed upon by the office of budget and program planning and the legislative fiscal analyst.
- (5) By October 30, a budget request must be prepared by the budget director and submitted to the legislative fiscal analyst on behalf of any agency that did not present the information required by this section. The budget request must be based upon the budget director's studies of the operations, plans, and needs of the institution, university unit, or agency. If an agency is selected for inclusion in the zero-based budget process pursuant to [section 1(4)], the budget director's budget request must include a zero-based budget reflecting the information required by [section 1(2)].
- (6) (a) By November 1, the budget director shall furnish the legislative fiscal analyst with a present law base for each agency and a copy of the documents that reflect the anticipated receipts and other means of financing the base budget and present law base for each fiscal year of the ensuing biennium. The material must be in a format agreed upon by both the office of budget and program planning and the legislative fiscal analyst.
- (b) By November 1, the budget director shall furnish the legislative fiscal analyst with a copy of the documents that reflect anticipated receipts and other means of financing the zero-based budget request for each



agency that is selected for inclusion in the zero-based budget process pursuant to [section 1(4)]. The material

must be separate and distinct from the material in subsection (6)(a) and must be in a format agreed upon by the

office of budget and program planning and the legislative fiscal analyst.

- (7) By November 12, the budget director shall furnish the legislative fiscal analyst with the documents, in a format agreed upon by both the office of budget and program planning and the legislative fiscal analyst, that reflect expenditures to the second level, as provided in 17-1-102(3), by funding source and detailed by accounting entity.
- (8) By November 15, the proposed pay plan schedule and the statewide project budget summary required by 17-7-111(4), a preliminary budget that meets the statutory requirements for submission of the budget to the legislature, and a summary of the preliminary budget designed for distribution to members and members-elect of the legislature must be submitted to the legislative fiscal analyst.
- (9) By December 15, the budget director shall submit a preliminary budget to the governor and to the governor-elect, if there is one, as provided in 17-7-121, and shall furnish the legislative fiscal analyst with all amendments to the preliminary budget.
- (10) By January 7, recommended changes proposed by a governor-elect must be transmitted to the legislative fiscal analyst and the legislature as provided in 17-7-121."

**Section 7.** Section 17-7-123, MCA, is amended to read:

- "17-7-123. Form of executive budget. (1) The budget submitted must set forth a balanced financial plan for funds subject to appropriation, as provided in 17-8-101, for each accounting entity and for the state government for each fiscal year of the ensuing biennium. The budget must consist of:
- (a) a consolidated budget summary setting forth the aggregate figures of the budget in a manner that shows a balance between the total proposed disbursements and the total anticipated receipts, together with the other means of financing the budget for each fiscal year of the ensuing biennium, contrasted with the corresponding figures for the last-completed fiscal year and the fiscal year in progress. The consolidated budget summary must be supported by explanatory schedules or statements.
- (b) budget and full-time equivalent personnel position comparisons by agency, program, and appropriated funds for the current and subsequent biennium;
  - (c) the departmental mission and a statement of goals and objectives for the department;
  - (d) base budget disbursements for the completed fiscal year of the current biennium, estimated



comparable disbursements for the current fiscal year, and the proposed present law base budget plus new proposals, if any, for each department and each program of the department;

- (e) a statement containing recommendations of the governor for the ensuing biennium by program and disbursement category, including:
- (i) explanations of appropriation and revenue measures included in the budget that involve policy changes;
- (ii) matters not included as a part of the budget bill but included as a part of the executive budget, such as the state employee pay plan, programs funded through separate appropriations measures, and other matters considered necessary for comprehensive public and legislative consideration of the state budget; and
- (iii) a summary of budget requests that include proposed expenditures on information technology resources. The summary must include funding, program references, and a decision package reference;
  - (f) a report on:

- (i) enterprise funds not subject to the requirements of subsections (1)(a) through (1)(e), including retained earnings and contributed capital, projected operations and charges, and projected fund balances; and
- (ii) fees and charges in the internal service fund type, including changes in the level of fees and charges, projected use of the fees and charges, and projected fund balances. Fees and charges in the internal service fund type must be approved by the legislature in the general appropriations act. Fees and charges in a biennium may not exceed the level approved by the legislature in the general appropriations act effective for that biennium.
- (g) energy cost saving information as required by 90-4-616 and energy conservation program information as required by 90-4-606; and
- (h) any other financial or budgetary material agreed to by the budget director and the legislative fiscal analyst.
- (2) In addition to the information required by subsection (1), the budget submitted must include a separate and distinct zero-based budget for each agency that is selected for inclusion in the zero-based budget process pursuant to [section 1]. The zero-based budget submitted must set forth the amount of funding necessary to achieve the most cost-effective performance of each agency. The budget must consist of:
  - (a) the information required by [section 1(2)]; and
- (b) other information the governor considers necessary for the preparation of a zero-based budget for
   the ensuing biennium.
  - (2)(3) The statement of departmental goals and objectives and the schedule as required in



1 17-7-111(3)(b) for each fund of the executive budget are not required to be printed but must be available in the
2 office of budget and program planning and on the internet."
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4 NEW SECTION. Section 8. Codification instruction. [Section 1] is intended to be codified as an
5 integral part of Title 17, chapter 7, part 1, and the provisions of Title 17, chapter 7, part 1, apply to [section 1].
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7 NEW SECTION. Section 9. Effective date. [This act] is effective July 1, 2011.
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9 NEW SECTION. Section 10. Applicability. [This act] applies to fiscal year 2012 and subsequent fiscal

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years.