JOINT RULES RESOLUTION ON BASE BUDGETING

PROVISIONS

2019 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Jefferson Moss

Senate Sponsor: Daniel Hemmert

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This resolution modifies joint rules related to base budgeting.

Highlighted Provisions:

This resolution:

- defines terms;
- requires every appropriations subcommittee to create an accountable process budget for a percentage of the subcommittee's budgets each interim; and
- modifies provisions governing appropriations subcommittee meetings.

Special Clauses:

None

Legislative Rules Affected:

AMENDS:

JR3-2-101
JR3-2-402
JR3-2-501
JR4-2-406

Be it resolved by the Legislature of the state of Utah:

Section 1. JR3-2-101 is amended to read:


As used in this chapter:
(1) "Accountable process budget" means a budget that is created by starting from zero and adding line items and programs recommended through an accountable budget process.

(2) "Accountable budget process" means a review of a line item or program in a simple base budget to determine whether or the extent to which to recommend the line item or program be included in a budget for the upcoming fiscal year.

(3) "Base budget" means:
   (a) an accountable process budget; or
   (b) for a line item or program that was not the subject of an accountable process budget analysis during the immediately preceding interim, a simple base budget.

[(1)] (4) "Chair" means:
   (a) the chair of an appropriations subcommittee or the Executive Appropriations Committee; or
   (b) a member of a joint appropriations subcommittee or the Executive Appropriations Committee member who is authorized to act as chair under JR3-2-303.

[(2)] (5) "Committee" means a joint appropriations subcommittee or the Executive Appropriations Committee.

[(3)] (6) "Majority vote" means a majority of a quorum as provided in JR3-2-404.

[(4)] (7) "Original motion" means a non-privileged motion that is accepted by the chair when no other motion is pending.

[(5)] (8) "Pending motion" refers to a motion starting when a chair accepts a motion and ending when the motion is withdrawn or when the chair calls for a vote on the motion.

[(6)] (9) (a) "Privileged motion" means a procedural motion to adjourn, set a time to adjourn, recess, end debate, extend debate, or limit debate.
   (b) "Privileged motions" are not substitute motions.

[(7)] (10) "Proposed budget item" means any item under consideration by an appropriations committee for inclusion in an appropriations bill.

(11) (a) "Simple base budget" means amounts appropriated by the Legislature for each line item for the current fiscal year that:
(i) are not designated as one-time in an appropriation, regardless of whether the appropriation is covered by ongoing or one-time revenue sources; and
(ii) were not vetoed by the governor, unless the Legislature overrode the veto.
(b) "Simple base budget" includes:
(i) any changes to those amounts approved by the Executive Appropriations Committee; and
(ii) amounts appropriated for debt service.
[
(8) (12) "Substitute motion" means a non-privileged motion that is made when a non-privileged motion is pending.
(9) (13) "Under consideration" means the time starting when a chair opens a discussion on a subject or an appropriations request that is listed on a committee agenda and ending when the committee disposes of the subject or request, moves on to another item on the agenda, or adjourns.

Section 2. JR3-2-402 is amended to read:

JR3-2-402. Executive appropriations -- Duties -- Base budgets.
[(1) As used in this rule:]
[(a) "Base budget" means amounts appropriated by the Legislature for each item of appropriation for the current fiscal year that:
[(i) are not designated as one-time in an appropriation, regardless of whether the appropriation is covered by ongoing or one-time revenue sources; and]
[(ii) were not vetoed by the governor, unless the Legislature overrode the veto.]
[(b) "Base budget" includes:
[(i) any changes to those amounts approved by the Executive Appropriations Committee; and
[(ii) amounts appropriated for debt service.]]

[(2) (1) (a) The Executive Appropriations Committee shall meet no later than the third Wednesday in December to:
(i) direct staff as to what revenue estimate to use in preparing budget]
recommendations, to include a forecast for federal fund receipts;
(ii) consider treating above-trend revenue growth as one-time revenue for major tax types and for federal funds;
(iii) hear a report on the historical, current, and anticipated status of the following:
(A) debt;
(B) long term liabilities;
(C) contingent liabilities;
(D) General Fund borrowing;
(E) reserves;
(F) fund balances;
(G) nonlapsing appropriation balances;
(H) cash funded infrastructure investment; and
(I) changes in federal funds paid to the state;
(iv) hear a report on:
(A) the next fiscal year base budget appropriation for Medicaid accountable care organizations according to Section 26-18-405.5;
(B) an explanation of program funding needs;
(C) estimates of overall medical inflation in the state; and
(D) mandated program changes and their estimated cost impact on Medicaid accountable care organizations;
(v) decide whether to set aside special allocations for the end of the session, including allocations:
(A) to address any anticipated reduction in the amount of federal funds paid to the state; and
(B) of one-time revenue to pay down debt and other liabilities;
(vi) approve the appropriate amount for each subcommittee to use in preparing its budget;
(vii) set a budget figure; and
(viii) adopt a base budget in accordance with Subsection [(2)] (1)(b) and direct the
legislative fiscal analyst to prepare one or more appropriations acts appropriating one or more
base budgets for the next fiscal year.

(b) In a base budget adopted under Subsection [(2)] (1)(a), appropriations from the
General Fund, the Education Fund, and the Uniform School Fund shall be set as follows:

(i) if the next fiscal year ongoing revenue estimates set under Subsection [(2)] (1)(a)(i)
are equal to or greater than the current fiscal year ongoing appropriations, the new fiscal year
base budget is not changed;

(ii) if the next fiscal year ongoing revenue estimates set under Subsection [(2)] (1)(a)(i)
are less than the current fiscal year ongoing appropriations, the new fiscal year base budget is
reduced by the same percentage that projected next fiscal year ongoing revenue estimates are
lower than the total of current fiscal year ongoing appropriations;

(iii) in making a reduction under Subsection [(2)] (1)(b)(ii), appropriated debt service
shall not be reduced, and other ongoing appropriations shall be reduced, in an amount
sufficient to make the total ongoing appropriations, including the unadjusted debt service,
equal to the percentage calculated under Subsection [(2)] (1)(b)(ii); and

(iv) the new fiscal year base budget shall include an appropriation to the Department of
Health for Medicaid accountable care organizations in the amount required by Section 26-18-405.5.

(c) The chairs of each joint appropriations subcommittee are invited to attend this
meeting.

[(3)] (2) All proposed budget items shall be submitted to one of the subcommittees
named in JR3-2-302 for consideration and recommendation.

[(4)] (3) (a) After receiving and reviewing subcommittee reports, the Executive
Appropriations Committee may refer the report back to a joint appropriations subcommittee
with any guidelines the Executive Appropriations Committee considers necessary to assist the
subcommittee in producing a balanced budget.

(b) The subcommittee shall meet to review the new guidelines and report the
adjustments to the chairs of the Executive Appropriations Committee as soon as possible.

[(4) (a)] After receiving the reports, the Executive Appropriations Committee chairs will report them to the Executive Appropriations Committee.

(b) The Executive Appropriations Committee shall:

(i) make any further adjustments necessary to balance the budget; and

(ii) complete all decisions necessary to draft the final appropriations bills no later than the 39th day of the annual general session.

Section 3. JR3-2-501 is amended to read:

JR3-2-501. Meetings -- Accountable process budget creation -- Appropriation reviews.

(1) (a) During the interim, the Executive Appropriations Committee shall meet at least every other month on the day before interim meetings.

(b) The appropriations subcommittee chairs may attend these meetings and provide input regarding their budget.

(2) Appropriation subcommittees shall meet at least once during the interim and may also hold additional meetings if authorized by the Legislative Management Committee.

(3) (a) Each interim, each appropriations subcommittee shall create an accountable process budget for approximately 20% of the budgets that fall within the appropriation subcommittee's responsibilities.

(b) Each appropriations subcommittee shall ensure that each of the budgets for which the appropriations subcommittee has responsibility is the subject of an accountable budget process at least once every five years.

[(4) (a)] The Executive Appropriations Committee may, based on a legislator's or citizen's complaint, review any appropriation, whether in an appropriations bill or otherwise, to ensure that the entity to which the funds were appropriated complies with any legislative intent expressed in the legislation appropriating the funds.

(b) If the Executive Appropriations Committee finds that an entity has not complied with any legislative intent concerning an appropriation expressed in the legislation
appropriating the fund, the committee may make a recommendation concerning the
appropriation to the entity receiving the funds and the Legislative Management Committee.

Section 4. **JR4-2-406** is amended to read:

**JR4-2-406. Funding mix for state employee compensation adjustments and**
**internal service fund rate impacts.**

(1) The legislative fiscal analyst shall prepare a budget for state employee
compensation adjustments and internal service fund rate impacts that minimizes costs to the
unrestricted General Fund, Education Fund, and Uniform School Fund, by:

(a) using a mix of funding sources that is proportionate to that of the base budget, as
defined [under Joint Rule 3-2-402] in JR3-2-101, at the appropriation unit level for the same
budget year;

(b) including sources other than the unrestricted General Fund, Education Fund, and
Uniform School Fund, regardless of the availability of additional revenue;

(c) adjusting the funding mix when the full or partial use of one or more sources is
directed in statute, federal regulation, or the terms of a federal grant; and

(d) adjusting the funding mix based on the appropriate use of funding sources other
than the unrestricted General Fund, Education Fund, and Uniform School Fund,
transportation-related funds, federal funds, restricted accounts, and dedicated credits.

(2) When the legislative fiscal analyst adjusts the funding mix in accordance with
Subsection (1)(c) or (d), the legislative fiscal analyst shall:

(a) eliminate the appropriate portion of the source from the funding mix;

(b) deduct the amount associated with the source from the base budget total;

(c) recalculate the proportional distribution among remaining sources; and

(d) distribute the appropriate budget adjustment amounts accordingly.

(3) If the legislative fiscal analyst identifies a funding mix that would provide
additional spending authority for sources other than the unrestricted General Fund, Education
Fund, and Uniform School Fund and additional revenue is unavailable, in accordance with
Subsection (1)(b), an agency may make or request program reductions, reprioritizations,
reallocations, or fee increases pursuant with Utah Code Title 63J, Chapter 1, Budgetary
Procedures Act.
(4) The legislative fiscal analyst shall request that an internal service fund agency
reflect state employee compensation adjustments and impacts from rate changes in other
internal funds in the rates recommended by the internal service fund agency for a given budget
cycle, either:
(a) on a prospective basis for the budget year, based on an estimated amount; or
(b) on a one-year lag basis, if the specific internal service fund has sufficient operating
reserves to maintain the internal service fund's fiscal integrity.
(5) (a) The Executive Appropriations Committee may approve for one fiscal year
exceptions to the budget preparation criteria described in Subsections (1) through (4).
(b) The legislative fiscal analyst shall prepare a budget that includes exceptions
approved by the Executive Appropriations Committee under this Subsection (5).
(c) The Executive Appropriations Committee shall annually determine whether to
re-approve an exception approved by the Executive Appropriations Committee under this
Subsection (5).