
DIGEST

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HB 428 Reengrossed

2021 Regular Session

Geymann

Abstract: If federal disaster dollars are received by the state, prohibits increases in recurring expenses of any state office, department, division, board, commission, council, committee, postsecondary education institution, or other executive branch entity, unless certain circumstances are met.

Present law provides for the development, enactment, and execution of the operating budget for the executive branch of government. Proposed law retains present law.

Proposed law prohibits any increase in recurring expenses for an executive branch entity for the remainder of any fiscal year in which money is received by the state from the federal government for costs associated with a federally declared disaster, and continuing each fiscal year thereafter until all such dollars are obligated and paid. Provides that in each such year, recurring expenses shall not increase above amounts budgeted in the previous fiscal year. Defines "recurring expense" to mean an expenditure necessary for the operation of the executive branch entity, including but not limited to salary expenses, utilities, and supplies as delineated by the Legislative Fiscal Office. Further provides that the phrase shall not include acquisitions, major repairs, debt service, or employee or retiree benefit payments.

Provides that proposed law applies to all state offices, departments, divisions, boards, commissions, councils, committees, postsecondary education institutions, or other entities of the executive branch of state government. Further provides that proposed law shall not apply if either of the following conditions is met:

- (1) If the federal funds received are payable to the state on a reimbursement basis.
- (2) If the Revenue Estimating Conference adopts a revised forecast that shows recurring revenues sufficient to fully fund existing obligations and such increase for the current fiscal year and the next two fiscal years.

Effective upon signature of governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Adds R.S. 39:89.1)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Appropriations to the original

bill:

1. Change the cap on recurring expenses from amounts budgeted immediately prior to the federal declaration of the disaster to amounts budgeted the previous fiscal year.

The House Floor Amendments to the engrossed bill:

1. Add provision requiring the Legislative Fiscal Office to define "recurring expense" as used in proposed law.