

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

FILE NUMBER: H.F. 3113

DATE: March 12, 2008

Version: First engrossment

Authors: Hortman and others

Subject: Providing state budget information to the legislature

Analyst: Mark Shepard (651-296-5051)

This publication can be made available in alternative formats upon request. Please call 651-296-6753 (voice); or the Minnesota State Relay Service at 1-800-627-3529 (TTY) for assistance. Summaries are also available on our website at: www.house.mn/hrd.

Overview

Makes a number of changes in the laws governing the time and manner in which the executive branch provides budget information to the legislature.

Section

1 Legislative and budget proposal data. Under current law:

- The executive branch's legislative and budget proposals are not public until the budget is presented to the legislature.
- After the budget is presented to the legislature, supporting data, including agency requests, become public. However, "preliminary drafts" do not become public.

This section changes the current law in two ways:

- The "not public" status of the executive branch's legislative and budget proposals before the budget is presented to the legislature would not apply to requests from the legislature.
- After the budget is presented to the legislature, all supporting data, including "preliminary drafts," would be public.

2 Budget format. Requires that estimated expenditures submitted as part of the Governor's

Section

budget documents must be submitted in writing with information that supports the estimated expenditure. Also requires that these estimated expenditures be subclassified by individual agency departments.

3 Filing budget estimates. Strikes current law governing budget material that agencies must file with the commissioner of finance in the fall of even-numbered years, and provides that agencies must file with the commissioner of finance and the finance committees of the legislature:

- Estimates, including a full explanation of requests for increased appropriations, expansion of services and the addition of new activities;
- A statement of work accomplished during the preceding biennium and work proposed to be done during the next biennium;
- A list of all agency employees' titles and salaries;
- A comprehensive and integrated statement of agency missions and outcome and performance measures.

Strikes from current law language stating that the commissioner of finance is not required to send the legislature information that identifies executive branch decision items.

4 Detailed budget. Requires that detailed budget estimates included in the Governor's budget requests to the legislature must include the request of each department in an agency in tabular form so it may be readily compared with the governor's proposal for each department or agency. Provides that any appropriation change request by an agency or a department within an agency must be submitted in writing and must include information that supports the requested change.