

WHEREAS, Budget cuts are extremely difficult to make if they affect the job of a present State employee and no prior planning has been done to determine whether his security can be protected by transfer to another position. Such planning is now becoming available within the executive branch through the Consolidated Manpower Program, developed in the Department of Transportation, but is practically impossible for the General Assembly to do on its own during the budget review process; and

WHEREAS, Almost any programmatic cut is controversial and likely to provoke opposition from affected persons, and therefore requires careful preparation and justification. The executive agencies, who are more familiar with their own programs than anyone else, are in the best position to propose cuts and increases and to provide the detailed justification therefor; and

WHEREAS, The Volume of extra paperwork inherent in such a process can be minimized if agencies are not asked to "prioritize" and justify every activity every year, but only to identify a limited increment of lowest and highest priorities, and to justify those specific changes; and

WHEREAS, Multiple-level budgeting has proven to be of value to the General Assembly, and to the agency in considering and understanding the activities and priorities of the agency, and such a procedure has shown it can be the basis for concrete action, both for reductions and increases in expenditures, by a legislative body in Arlington County, Virginia; and

WHEREAS, Statistical summaries of State programs have proven to be of value in Hawaii, would facilitate decision-making on budget reductions and increases, and are not currently available in Maryland in a convenient, comparative form; and

WHEREAS, These additional reporting requirements should be coordinated with the existing requirement for preparation of annual Executive Plans; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Governor is requested to submit ~~with the next budget bill, or within ten days of submission thereof~~ to the General Assembly at the same time that agency budget requests are submitted to the Department of Budget and Fiscal Planning, a detailed list, with detailed justification and impact analysis, from the demonstration department or each agency, of the programs and positions which it would elect to eliminate, reduce, increase, or add if its budget were: