

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That section(s) of the Annotated Code of Maryland read(s) as follows:

9.

(A) It is hereby declared to be the legislative intent and desire that the Governor, in submitting the State budget and budget bill as directed by § 52(5) of Article 3 of the State Constitution, submit his complete financial program and recommendations for the fiscal year involved, including proposed bond bills and revenue bills to carry out such program, so that the General Assembly may have before it early in the session the entire fiscal program of the State administration, and that the supplemental budget amendments be rigidly restricted to the correction of mechanical errors in the initial budget and provision for expenditures required by legislation enacted in the current session.

(B) (1) IT IS FURTHER THE LEGISLATIVE INTENT AND DESIRE THAT THE GOVERNOR, IN SUBMITTING THE STATE BUDGET AND THE BUDGET BILL, GIVE THOROUGH AND DETAILED REVIEW TO THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SPENDING AFFORDABILITY COMMITTEE.

(2) IF THE GOVERNOR SUBMITS A BUDGET AND BUDGET BILL THAT REQUEST APPROPRIATIONS IN EXCESS OF THE AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED BY THE SPENDING AFFORDABILITY COMMITTEE, THE GOVERNOR SHALL INDICATE THE DEGREE TO WHICH THE BUDGET AS SUBMITTED DOES NOT CONFORM TO THE RECOMMENDATIONS AND EXPLAIN HIS RATIONALE FOR EXCEEDING THE RECOMMENDATIONS,--AND SHALL INCLUDE A PLAN THAT WOULD LOWER THE REQUESTED LEVEL OF APPROPRIATIONS--TO--CONFORM--TO--THE--RECOMMENDATIONS--OF--THE SPENDING AFFORDABILITY COMMITTEE.

Article 40 - General Assembly

SPENDING AFFORDABILITY

109.

(A) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FINDS THAT STATE EXPENDITURES FOR OPERATING AND CAPITAL PROGRAMS MUST BE CONTROLLED SO THAT THE LEVEL OF STATE SPENDING IS CONSISTENT WITH THE ECONOMIC GROWTH OF THE STATE.

(B) (1) THE CONTROL OF SPENDING SHALL BE EXERCISED THROUGH THE BUDGETARY PROCESS AS WELL AS THROUGH LEGISLATIVE OVERSIGHT AND PROGRAM REVIEW.

(2) THE BUDGET FOCUSES ON SPENDING FOR THE NEXT FISCAL YEAR AND PROVIDES CAREFUL SCRUTINY OF NEW PROGRAMS OR EXPANSION OF EXISTING PROGRAMS AND SERVICES AND WEIGHS THE INCREMENTAL COST OF THE BUDGET IN LIGHT OF THE PRIORITY NEEDS OF THE CITIZENS.