

The substituted language is, however, narrower than the former language, since the substituted language does not encompass, e.g., § 7-208(c) although that subsection is derived from former Art. 15A, § 8(a). However, § 7-208 applies exclusively to the Legislative Branch.

The substituted language also does not encompass §§ 7-205 and 7-206 of this subtitle, which are derived from former Art. 15A, § 8(a). Instead, in § 7-205 of this subtitle, an introductory exception is added to reference this section.

7-213. REDUCTIONS.

(A) AUTHORIZED.

EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION, WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS, THE GOVERNOR MAY REDUCE, BY NOT MORE THAN 25%, ANY ITEM OF APPROPRIATION THAT THE GOVERNOR CONSIDERS UNNECESSARY.

(B) EXCLUSIONS.

(1) THE GOVERNOR MAY NOT REDUCE AN APPROPRIATION TO THE LEGISLATIVE BRANCH OR THE JUDICIAL BRANCH OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT.

(2) THE GOVERNOR MAY NOT REDUCE AN APPROPRIATION FOR:

(I) PAYMENT OF THE PRINCIPAL OF OR INTEREST ON THE STATE DEBT;

(II) PUBLIC SCHOOLS; OR

(III) THE SALARY OF A PUBLIC OFFICER, DURING THE TERM OF OFFICE.

(3) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN THE MERIT SYSTEM LAW, THE GOVERNOR MAY NOT REDUCE AN APPROPRIATION FOR THE SALARY OF AN EMPLOYEE IN THE CLASSIFIED OR UNCLASSIFIED SERVICE.

REVISOR'S NOTE: This section is new language derived without substantive change from the first sentence of former Art. 15A, § 11.

In subsection (b)(1) of this section, the references to the "Legislative" and "Judicial" Branches are substituted for the former references to the "legislature" and the "judiciary". If the former word "legislature" is read to mean only the General Assembly and not, e.g., the staff agencies of the General Assembly, the reference to the "Legislative Branch" is broader. However, the substituted