

(a) 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) (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.

7-216.

(a) Subject to the limitations in this subtitle, an officer or unit of the State government may spend an appropriation [to] FOR A PROGRAM OF the officer or unit in accordance with the current [schedule for apportionment and disbursement of the] appropriation.

7-217.

(a) [Subject to § 7-202 of this subtitle, an] AN officer or unit of the State government may spend money [that is paid into the State Treasury for the use of the officer or unit and] that is derived from a source not estimated or included in the State budget AND IS PAID INTO THE STATE TREASURY FOR A PROGRAM AFTER AMENDMENT OF THE APPROPRIATION FOR THE PROGRAM:

(1) for the specific purpose to which the money is dedicated by State law or act of Congress; or

(2) if the money is not dedicated to a specific purpose, with the approval of the Governor, for necessary current operations.

(b) Money that is derived from a source estimated and included in an appropriation act and that is in excess of the estimate shall remain in the General Fund of the State until appropriated by a subsequent appropriation act.

8-125.