

By: Representative Eads

To: Appropriations

HOUSE BILL NO. 838

1 AN ACT TO REQUIRE EACH STATE AGENCY TO DESIGNATE THE RELATIVE  
2 NEED FOR EACH ITEM OR PROGRAM IN ITS BUDGET REQUEST TO THE JOINT  
3 LEGISLATIVE BUDGET COMMITTEE USING SPECIFIED CATEGORIES, AND TO  
4 RANK ITS PRIORITY OF EACH ITEM OR PROGRAM WITHIN EACH CATEGORY  
5 USING A NUMERICAL RANKING; TO REQUIRE EACH STATE AGENCY, AFTER THE  
6 JOINT LEGISLATIVE BUDGET COMMITTEE HAS PREPARED ITS OVERALL BUDGET  
7 AND SPECIFIED THE AMOUNT OF FUNDS RECOMMENDED FOR THE PROPOSED  
8 BUDGETS OF THE INDIVIDUAL STATE AGENCIES, TO SPECIFY THE ITEMS OR  
9 PROGRAMS THAT IT INTENDS TO IMPLEMENT USING THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF  
10 FUNDS RECOMMENDED FOR THE AGENCY'S PROPOSED BUDGET, TO DESIGNATE  
11 THE RELATIVE NEED FOR EACH OF THOSE ITEMS OR PROGRAMS USING THE  
12 SPECIFIED CATEGORIES, TO RANK THE AGENCY'S PRIORITY OF EACH ITEM  
13 OR PROGRAM WITHIN EACH CATEGORY USING A NUMERICAL RANKING, AND TO  
14 PROVIDE THAT INFORMATION TO THE LEGISLATURE IN SUCH FORM AS  
15 SPECIFIED BY THE LEGISLATIVE BUDGET OFFICE; TO AMEND SECTION  
16 27-103-129, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO CONFORM TO THE PRECEDING  
17 PROVISIONS; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

18 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:

19 SECTION 1. (1) (a) Each state agency shall designate the  
20 relative need for each item or program for which funds are  
21 requested in its budget request using the following categories:

22 (i) Immediate need items or programs: These items  
23 or programs are essential for the agency to carry out its basic  
24 mission and duties at an adequate level of performance. Funding  
25 of these items or programs is essential for the next fiscal year.

26 (ii) Secondary need items or programs: These  
27 items or programs would enhance the ability of the agency to carry  
28 out its basic mission and duties at a higher level of performance  
29 or in a more efficient or productive manner. Funding of these  
30 items or programs is desired, but is not essential, for the next  
31 fiscal year.

32 (iii) Long range need items or programs: These  
33 items or programs would expand the basic mission and duties of the  
34 agency by providing for services or functions that the agency is



35 not currently performing, or by significantly expanding any  
36 existing services or functions of the agency. Funding of these  
37 items or programs is requested for the next fiscal year, but could  
38 be deferred to a later year.

39 (b) In addition to designating the relative need for  
40 the items or programs in the categories specified in paragraph  
41 (a), the state agency shall rank its priority of each item or  
42 program within each category using a numerical ranking from the  
43 highest to the lowest priority.

44 (2) After the Joint Legislative Budget Committee has  
45 prepared its overall budget and specified the amount of funds  
46 recommended for the proposed budgets of the individual state  
47 agencies, each state agency shall:

48 (a) Specify the items or programs that it intends to  
49 implement using the total amount of funds recommended for the  
50 agency's proposed budget;

51 (b) Designate the relative need for each of those items  
52 or programs using the categories specified in subsection (1) (a);

53 (c) Rank the agency's priority of each item or program  
54 within each category using a numerical ranking from the highest to  
55 the lowest priority; and

56 (d) Provide the information required by paragraphs (a)  
57 through (c) to the Legislature before the third Monday in January,  
58 in such form as specified by the Legislative Budget Office.

59 SECTION 2. Section 27-103-129, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
60 amended as follows:

61 27-103-129. (1) To enable the Legislative Budget Office to  
62 prepare the overall budget, it shall have full and plenary power  
63 and authority to require all general-fund and special-fund  
64 agencies and the Mississippi Department of Transportation and the  
65 Division of State Aid Road Construction of the Mississippi  
66 Department of Transportation to file a budget request with such  
67 information and in such form and in such detail as it may deem



68 necessary and advisable. The Legislative Budget Office shall have  
69 the further power and authority to reduce or eliminate any item or  
70 items of requested appropriation by any state agency in the  
71 Legislative Budget Office's recommended budget to the Legislature.  
72 However, where any item of requested appropriation shall be so  
73 reduced or eliminated, the head of the agency involved shall have  
74 the right to appear before the appropriate legislative committee  
75 to urge a revision of the budget to restore the item reduced or  
76 eliminated.

77       (2) The budget requests shall include a definition of the  
78 mission of the agency, a description of the duties and  
79 responsibilities of the agency, financial data relative to the  
80 various programs operated by the agency and performance measures  
81 associated with each program of the agency. The performance  
82 measures to be contained within the agency budget request shall be  
83 developed by cooperative efforts of the Legislative Budget Office,  
84 the Department of Finance and Administration and the agency itself  
85 and shall be approved jointly by the Legislative Budget Office and  
86 the Department of Finance and Administration prior to inclusion  
87 within the agency budget request.

88       (3) The budget requests shall also include in an addendum  
89 format a five-year strategic plan for the agency which shall  
90 include, but not be limited to, the following items of  
91 information: (a) a comprehensive mission statement, (b)  
92 performance effectiveness objectives for each program of the  
93 agency for each of the five (5) years covered by the plan, (c) a  
94 description of significant external factors which may affect the  
95 projected levels of performance, (d) a description of the agency's  
96 internal management system utilized to evaluate its performance  
97 achievements in relationship to the targeted performance levels,  
98 (e) an evaluation by the agency of the agency's performance  
99 achievements in relationship to the targeted performance levels



100 for the two (2) preceding fiscal years for which accounting  
101 records have been finalized.

102 (4) The budget requests also shall include the agency's  
103 designation of the relative need for each item or program for  
104 which funds are requested in its budget request using the  
105 specified categories, and the agency's numerical ranking of the  
106 priority of each item or program within each category, as required  
107 by Section 1 of this act.

108 SECTION 3. This act shall take effect and be in force from  
109 and after July 1, 2001.

