

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 181

To require agencies submit zero-based budgets.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 22, 2025

Mr. RISCH (for himself, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. RICKETTS, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. SHEEHY, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, and Ms. LUMMIS) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

A BILL

To require agencies submit zero-based budgets.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. ZERO-BASED BUDGETS.**

4 (a) DEFINITION.—In this Act:

5 (1) AGENCY.—The term “agency” has the
6 meaning given the term in section 551 of title 5,
7 United States Code.

8 (2) ZERO-BASED BUDGET.—The term “zero-
9 based budget” means a systematic budget analysis
10 in support of decision making in which managers—

1 (A) examine current objectives, operations,
2 and costs;

3 (B) consider alternative ways of carrying
4 out a program or activity; and

5 (C) rank different programs or activities
6 by order of importance to the organization.

7 (b) ZERO-BASED BUDGETS.—Every sixth year, each
8 agency shall submit to the Director of the Office of Man-
9 agement and Budget and the Committee on the Budget
10 of the Senate and the Committee on the Budget of the
11 House of Representatives a zero-based budget for the next
12 fiscal year and each of the 4 ensuing fiscal years.

13 (c) RECOMMENDATIONS.—In addition to the zero-
14 based budget required under subsection (b), each agency,
15 except the Department of Defense and the National Nu-
16 clear Security Administration shall submit recommenda-
17 tions for which programs Congress should cut or reduce
18 appropriations in an amount that equals not less than a
19 2-percent reduction from the previous year appropriation
20 in discretionary spending.

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