

1 SJR77
2 191512-5
3 By Senators Orr and Pittman
4 RFD:
5 First Read: 20-FEB-18

1 SJR77

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4 ENROLLED, SJR77,

5 ADOPTING AN EVIDENCE-BASED BUDGETING PROCESS.

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7 WHEREAS, state government should be held accountable
8 to Alabama taxpayers for investments of state funds made to
9 programs and activities entrusted to be performed through
10 agencies receiving those funds so that state resources are
11 directed to effective and cost-beneficial programs that
12 produce the best outcomes for Alabama residents; and

13 WHEREAS, every program and activity performed by an
14 agency receiving state funds should be identified and the
15 premise, goals, objectives, and ultimately, the performance
16 and outcomes of each program and activity, should be measured
17 and quantified; and

18 WHEREAS, the goals of the state and those agencies
19 receiving state funds should be centered on a shared interest
20 in maximizing the value of limited financial resources and
21 further incorporating the use of evidence into institutional
22 decision-making processes; now therefore,

23 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
24 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That under the direction of the
25 Chairs of the Senate Finance and Taxation General Fund

1 Committee, Senate Finance and Taxation Education Committee,
2 House Ways and Means General Fund Committee, and House Ways
3 and Means Education Committee and pursuant to the ongoing
4 active technical assistance and training provided by the
5 Fiscal Division of the Legislative Services Agency, an
6 evidence-based budgeting process is adopted by this body as
7 follows:

8 (a) The evidence-based budgeting process shall be
9 implemented immediately for any new program, or the expansion
10 of an existing program, proposed to be offered by any of the
11 following state agencies:

12 (1) The Medicaid Agency.

13 (2) The Department of Corrections.

14 (3) The Department of Mental Health.

15 (4) The District Attorneys.

16 (5) The State Department of Human Resources.

17 (6) The Alabama State Law Enforcement Agency.

18 (7) The Board of Pardons and Paroles.

19 (8) The Department of Public Health.

20 (9) The Department of Senior Services.

21 (10) The Department of Agriculture and Industries.

22 (b) For the purposes of this resolution, the
23 following terms shall have the following meanings:

1 (1) A program is a systematic intervention or
2 prevention activity designed to achieve a specific outcome for
3 a defined population.

4 (2) An evidence-based program offers a high level of
5 research on effectiveness, determined as a result of multiple
6 rigorous evaluations, such as randomized controlled trials and
7 evaluations that incorporate strong comparison group designs,
8 or a single large multisite randomized study. These programs
9 typically have specified procedures that allow for successful
10 replication.

11 (3) A promising program has some research
12 demonstrating effectiveness, such as a single randomized
13 controlled trial or evaluation with a comparison group design,
14 but does not meet the full criteria for an evidence-based
15 designation.

16 (4) A research-based program has not been rigorously
17 evaluated and requires additional research to meet the
18 evidence-based or promising standards.

19 (c) Each agency listed in subsection (a) shall begin
20 incorporating evidence-based policy making into the budgeting
21 process and the personnel of each agency shall review the
22 programs offered by their respective agency, with the
23 assistance and direction of the fiscal division, and shall do
24 all of the following:

1 (1) Establish an inventory of each agency program
2 that includes, but is not limited to, all of the following
3 information for each program:

4 a. The name of the program, including whether the
5 name is a variant of a nationally recognized program.

6 b. A detailed description of the program, including
7 whether the program is addressing a problem or is an
8 opportunity to impact an outcome.

9 c. The average duration and frequency of
10 participation for a participant engaged in the program.

11 d. The agency or entity responsible for delivering
12 the program.

13 e. The delivery setting for the program.

14 f. The desired measurable outcome to be impacted by
15 the program.

16 g. A detailed description of the participants and
17 total annual number of participants participating in the
18 program.

19 h. Any known alternative program a participant could
20 participate in if the program were not provided.

21 i. The detailed annual direct and indirect
22 expenditures to deliver the program.

23 j. Any other information requested or required by
24 the fiscal division.

1 (2) Identify agency and program premises, goals,
2 objectives, outcomes, and outputs, as well as any other
3 indicator or component considered appropriate by the personnel
4 of the agency.

5 (3) Provide a comparison of the annual costs and
6 benefits per participant of the program to similar programs
7 offered in other jurisdictions.

8 (4) At the direction of the fiscal division,
9 categorize each agency program as evidence-based, promising,
10 or research-based. A program may not receive a rating of
11 evidence-based or promising unless the rating is first
12 approved by the fiscal division.

13 (5) Establish a procedure for providing a baseline
14 for each program which is built around research-based programs
15 or other programs that do not satisfy the definition of
16 evidence-based so that further research may be conducted to
17 gauge the effectiveness of the program.

18 (6) Describe any methodology used to develop any
19 program which is neither evidence-based nor a promising
20 practice.

21 (7) For any proposal to fund a new program or to
22 expand an existing program, submit a detailed proposal to the
23 Finance Director, the State Budget Officer, the Chairs of the
24 Senate Finance and Taxation General Fund Committee, Senate
25 Finance and Taxation Education Committee, House Ways and Means

1 General Fund Committee, House Ways and Means Education
2 Committee, and the Director of the Legislative Services
3 Agency. The proposal shall include all of the elements of the
4 program inventory and a baseline evaluation procedure that
5 ensures the program is implemented to fidelity and
6 accomplishes its defined objectives.

7 (8) Establish a procedure for incorporating
8 evidence-based practices into provider contracts, which
9 requires the collection of data necessary to complete a
10 detailed and accurate program inventory.

11 (9) Provide continuous updates to the required data
12 and information on an annual basis.

13 (d) The fiscal division shall report to the Chairs
14 of the Senate Finance and Taxation General Fund Committee,
15 Senate Finance and Taxation Education Committee, House Ways
16 and Means General Fund Committee, and House Ways and Means
17 Education Committee the results of all activities required by
18 this resolution with recommendations for incorporating the
19 information into budget recommendations and the appropriations
20 process.

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the appropriate head of
22 each agency referenced in this resolution are instructed to
23 take appropriate action to implement the provisions of this
24 resolution, and the Secretary of the Senate is directed to
25 transmit a copy of this resolution to each agency head so that

1 they are formally informed of our expectations regarding this
2 matter and our firm determination to closely and fully monitor
3 the implementation of the evidence-based budgeting process.

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President and Presiding Officer of the Senate

Speaker of the House of Representatives

SJR77
Senate 20-FEB-18
I hereby certify that the within Senate Joint Resolution
originated in and was adopted by the Senate.

Patrick Harris,
Secretary.

House of Representatives
Adopted: 27-MAR-18

By: Senator Orr