
By: **Delegate Poole**

Introduced and read first time: February 13, 1998

Assigned to: Appropriations and Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Spending Affordability Program - Analysis of State Expenditures to Local**
3 **Governments and Analysis of Projected Deficits**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring the Spending Affordability Committee of the General
5 Assembly to review in detail the status and projections of State appropriations
6 to and on behalf of local governments, including a certain analysis; requiring the
7 Committee, in evaluating future State expenditures, to consider any projected
8 deficit related to increases in State expenditures; expanding the requirements
9 for the annual report of the Committee to the General Assembly; and generally
10 relating to the Spending Affordability Committee.

11 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
12 Article - State Government
13 Section 2-1004 and 2-1005
14 Annotated Code of Maryland
15 (1995 Replacement Volume and 1997 Supplement)

16 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
17 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

18 **Article - State Government**

19 2-1004.

20 (a) The Committee shall review in detail:

21 (1) the status and projections of the revenues and expenditures of
22 the State; [and]

23 (2) the status and projections of the economy of the State; AND

24 (3) THE STATUS AND PROJECTIONS OF STATE APPROPRIATIONS TO
25 AND ON BEHALF OF LOCAL GOVERNMENTS, INCLUDING AN ANALYSIS OF THE
26 GROWTH OF STATE APPROPRIATIONS TO AND ON BEHALF OF LOCAL GOVERNMENTS
27 DURING THE 3 FISCAL YEARS PRECEDING THE FISCAL YEAR OF THE STATE BUDGET

1 FOR WHICH A SPENDING AFFORDABILITY ANALYSIS IS PREPARED UNDER THIS
2 SUBTITLE.

3 (b) In evaluating future State expenditures, the Committee shall consider:

4 (1) economic indicators such as personal income, gross State
5 product, or other data; AND

6 (2) ANY PROJECTED DEFICIT RELATED TO INCREASES IN FUTURE
7 STATE EXPENDITURES.

8 2-1005.

9 (a) On or before December 1 of each year, the Committee shall submit, subject
10 to § 2-1246 of this article, to the Legislative Policy Committee and the Governor a
11 report with recommendations on fiscal goals for the State budget to be considered at
12 the next regular session of the General Assembly, including:

13 (1) a recommended level of State spending;

14 (2) a recommended level of new debt authorization;

15 (3) a recommended level of State personnel;

16 (4) A RECOMMENDED PLAN TO ADDRESS A PROJECTED DEFICIT;

17 (5) A RECOMMENDED LEVEL OF STATE SPENDING FOR LOCAL
18 GOVERNMENTS;

19 [(4)] (6) a recommended use of any anticipated surplus; and

20 [(5)] (7) other findings or recommendations that the Committee
21 considers appropriate.

22 (b) If the report recommends expenditures in excess of the annual increase in
23 personal income, gross State product, or other data that the Committee used to
24 measure the growth of the State's economy, the Committee shall provide the Senate
25 and the House with an analysis as to the extent the recommendation exceeds those
26 economic indicators.

27 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
28 June 1, 1998.