

Budget Committee and Subcommittee Report Out Procedure

In order to reduce the volume of person-to-person contact, signature pages for budget committee and subcommittee reports for agency budgets will not be utilized this year. The procedure described below will be used to have the Budget Committee or Subcommittee verify that the report is ready to be presented to House Appropriations and Senate Ways and Means Committees.

1. All Budget and Subcommittee members will be emailed a copy of the budget report by noon the day before the budget is scheduled to report out.
 - a. On some occasions, the recommendations for the report will occur the day immediately prior to the date the report is scheduled out. On those occasions, the Legislative Fiscal Analysts will seek permission of the Committee to email the report late.
2. All replies will be due to the Fiscal Analyst by 5:00 PM on the day before the budget is scheduled to report out. The absence of a reply will be considered agreement to forward the report to House Appropriations or Senate Ways and Means.
 - a. On some occasions the recommendations for the report will occur the day immediately prior to the date the report is scheduled out. On those occasions, the Legislative Fiscal Analysts will seek to set a specific time for the Committee members to reply to the draft reports.
3. In the event a member of the Budget Committee or Subcommittee does not believe the report is ready to be presented to the full committee and communicates that to the fiscal analyst by the set deadline via email, that member will be listed in the minutes for House Appropriations or Senate Ways and Means as dissenting. If the majority of members dissent, the budget report will not be sent to House Appropriations or Senate Ways and Means.
4. This process is not a replacement for the "Minority Report", which are still permitted to be submitted. Minority reports may be provided to the appropriate fiscal analyst within the same timeframe or sent directly to the House Appropriations or Senate Ways and Means committees.

Guidance from the Office of the Revisor of Statutes: Please do not "reply all" to the email communications or otherwise communicate with other Committee members about the draft report. Interactive communications amongst Committee members, even through email, could constitute a meeting for the purposes of the Kansas Open Meetings Act. The appropriate place to discuss Committee business and the draft report is the next scheduled meeting of the Budget Committee or House Appropriations Committee, so please refrain from discussing the draft report until that time.