

A bill for an act
relating to state finance; requiring a balanced budget prior to passage of other
legislation; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 16A.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

Section 1. **[16A.112] PRIORITY FOR PASSAGE OF BALANCED BUDGET.**

Subdivision 1. General fund balanced budget. Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, the legislature must balance the general fund budget before passing any conference reports or identical bills to enact changes to Minnesota law that are not applicable to the general fund budget or to appropriate money from a nongeneral fund account or fund or to authorize state general obligation bonds and appropriate money from the bond proceeds fund under section 16A.631 for capital projects. The budget must be balanced by the passage of one or more conference reports or identical bills in both bodies that have the effect of balancing general fund revenues and expenditures based on the forecast under section 16A.103. In an even-numbered year, the legislature must pass a balanced budget for the current biennium based on the November forecast in the previous odd-numbered year. In an odd-numbered year, the legislature must pass a balanced budget for both the current and subsequent biennium based on the most recent forecast.

Subd. 2. Rules. Each house of the legislature shall provide by rule that it will pass a balanced general fund budget before passing any legislation that is not directly related to balancing general fund revenue and expenditures for the current or subsequent biennium based on the forecast under section 16A.103.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective the day following final enactment.