

118TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 201

To require agencies submit zero-based budgets.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 1, 2023

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

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## 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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