

**H. B. 2218**

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(By Delegates Householder, Cadle, Moffatt, Folk, Ihle, Hill,  
Statler, Butler, Gearheart, Kurcaba and Foster)

[Introduced January 22, 2015; referred to the  
Committee on Finance.]

**FISCAL  
NOTE**

A BILL to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding thereto a new article,  
designated §4-14-1, §4-14-2 and §4-14-3, all relating to creating the Budget Reform Act;  
making legislative findings; requiring spending cuts in state government; and establishing  
an effective date.

*Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:*

That the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, be amended by adding thereto a new  
article, designated §4-14-1, §4-14-2 and §4-14-3, all to read as follows:

**ARTICLE 14. BUDGET REFORM ACT.**

**§4-14-1. Legislative findings.**

The Legislature finds:

(1) Reducing government spending and cutting taxes is the best way to help create jobs for  
our citizens, improve our state’s economy, and give our citizens more freedom.

(2) The current budget of the State of West Virginia is the largest in our state’s history. The  
total budget stands at roughly \$11 billion.

1           (3) State government wastes at least ten percent of the taxpayers' money every year. This  
2 wasted money must be cut and given back to the taxpayers because the taxpayers know how to spend  
3 their own money better than the state government.

4           (4) Elected representatives need pressure put on them to reduce spending. The best way to  
5 put this pressure on them is by legislation.

6           (5) This article requires spending cuts to help create jobs for our citizens, improve our state's  
7 economy, and give our citizens more freedom. This article cuts spending by roughly ten percent of  
8 the current state budget.

9 **§4-14-2. Spending cuts.**

10           Once this article becomes effective, the budget of the State of West Virginia shall be reduced  
11 by one percent per year in each succeeding fiscal year for the next ten years. In no case may  
12 spending exceed the previous year's spending.

13 **§4-14-3. Effective date.**

14           This article takes effect on July 1, 2015.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to create the Budget Reform Act. The bill makes legislative findings. The bill requires a one percent spending cut per year for ten years, and reduction in the size of state government. The bill also establishes July 1, 2015 the effective date.

This article is new; therefore, it has been completely underscored.