



STATE OF ILLINOIS  
**OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**  
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS 62706

**JB Pritzker**  
GOVERNOR

**MEMORANDUM**

**To:** All Governor's Cabinet Directors

**From:** Dan Hynes, Deputy Governor, Budget & Economy  
Alexis Sturm, Director, Governor's Office of Management and Budget

**Subject:** Fiscal Year 2021 Spending Efficiencies Proposals

**Date:** September 9, 2019

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Although the spring legislative session produced a successful balanced budget for fiscal year 2020, Illinois continues to face significant financial challenges, and we must continue to be wise fiscal stewards of the limited resources of State government. The State's backlog of unpaid general funds bills that were left behind by the previous administration remained in excess of \$7 billion as of June 30, 2019,<sup>1</sup> and the extensive bill payment delays continue to strain the State's network of providers and translate into millions of dollars of unnecessary interest costs.

In that context, it remains essential that agency leadership continue to evaluate current operations and procedures and set parameters for operational expenses in all agencies. Directions regarding submissions of fiscal year 2021 budget requests will be forthcoming in a few weeks from GOMB; however, even now, agency directors – working in conjunction with their Deputy Governor and GOMB staff – should be prepared to:

- 1) Propose in your annual submission to GOMB an actionable scenario that includes operational efficiencies reflecting a 6.5% reduction from an estimated maintenance

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<sup>1</sup> According to the Comptroller's Debt Transparency Report, the June 30, 2019 estimated pending backlog of bills totaled \$7.278 billion.

<https://illinoiscomptroller.gov/comptroller/assets/File/DTA/ReportSummary/ReportSummaryPeriodEnding201906.pdf>

level of fiscal year 2021 operations funding across all appropriated funds (additional details will be forthcoming in GOMB's budget submission request forms);

- 2) Conduct a review of boards and commissions within your agency's purview and propose elimination of statutorily created boards and commissions that would lead to a 10% reduction of them;
- 3) Identify at least two significant efficiency and savings ideas for consideration in the fiscal year 2021 budget. Ideas could include (but are not limited to) items such as elimination or consolidation of duplicative programs, reduction in funding for underutilized or inefficient services, or improvements in service delivery that streamline costs. Reviews of agency audits from the last few years can provide ideas for cost savings for fiscal year 2021.

Your proposal will need to be submitted with your fiscal year 2021 budget request to GOMB. Agency directors should be prepared to implement any ideas submitted in the fiscal year 2021 budget requests. We and our staffs are available to discuss this memo and answer any questions you may have.