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SENATE BILL 159

49TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2009

INTRODUCED BY

Sander Rue

AN ACT

RELATING TO PUBLIC ACCESS TO BUDGET INFORMATION; REQUIRING
CREATION OF A SEARCHABLE BUDGET DATABASE WITH PUBLIC ACCESS;
ENACTING THE BUDGET TRANSPARENCY ACT.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

Section 1. SHORT TITLE.--This act may be cited as the
"Budget Transparency Act".

Section 2. DEFINITIONS.--As used in the Budget
Transparency Act:

A. "department" means the department of finance and
administration; and

B. "local government" means an incorporated
municipality, a county, a special district, a school district
or any other subdivision of the state.

Section 3. SEARCHABLE BUDGET DATABASE--PUBLIC ACCESS--

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1 REQUIRED CREATION.--

2 A. The secretary of finance and administration, in
3 coordination with the secretary of information technology,
4 shall develop and make available to the public an easily
5 accessible, searchable budget database on the department's web
6 site that is a single unit and that displays the state budget
7 for each year beginning with fiscal year 2011 within forty-five
8 days following the adoption of the general appropriations bill
9 for each fiscal year.

10 B. The state budget database shall include all
11 appropriations of state and federal money available for
12 expenditure in the fiscal year.

13 C. The budgets of each local government in the
14 state shall be accessible through clearly visible links on the
15 department's budget database web site.

16 D. To the extent possible, a search in the state's
17 budget database shall also search prior state databases and
18 current and prior budget databases of all of the local
19 governments.

20 Section 4. LOCAL GOVERNMENT BUDGETS.--

21 A. Within forty-five days after the adoption by a
22 local government of its budget, but no later than June 1 of any
23 fiscal year beginning on or after June 1, 2010, a local
24 government shall provide an easily accessible, searchable
25 budget database on the local government's web site that is a

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1 single unit, that displays the budget of that local government
2 and that displays all appropriations made by that local
3 government from municipal, county, district, state, federal or
4 other sources.

5 B. To the extent possible, a search in one local
6 government's database shall also search the current and prior
7 databases of the department and all other local governments in
8 the state.

9 C. The local government budget database shall be
10 reviewed and approved by the department as to format, content,
11 ease of access and ability to search and find data prior to
12 being made available to the public.

13 Section 5. PRIOR BUDGETS--STATE--LOCAL GOVERNMENT.--

14 A. A budget shall remain available and able to be
15 searched on the web site of the department or of a local
16 government for at least a ten-year period.

17 B. No later than July 1, 2012, the secretary of
18 finance and administration shall post budgets for fiscal years
19 2001 through 2010 on the department's web site. The budgets
20 shall be able to be searched and made clearly accessible to the
21 public.

22 C. No later than July 1, 2012, local governments
23 shall post links to budgets for the years 2001 through 2011 on
24 the web site with the local government's current budget. The
25 budgets shall be easy to access and search.