

## STRATEGIC PROGRAM AREA REVIEWS

Laws 1993, Chapter 252 established a program review process for Arizona state government. Laws 1997, Chapter 210 and Laws 1999, Chapter 148 amended this process. The legislation outlines the following procedures for the Strategic Program Area Review (SPAR) process:

- The Joint Legislative Budget Committee (JLBC) shall determine those program areas to be subject to SPAR. By January 1 of each odd-numbered year, the JLBC Staff, in consultation with the Governor’s Office for Strategic Planning and Budgeting (OSPB), shall recommend to the JLBC a list of program areas suggested for the SPAR process. Agencies also may submit SPAR candidates.
- Each agency responsible for a SPAR program shall submit a self-assessment of the program to the Directors of the JLBC and OSPB by June 1 of the odd-numbered year in which the program is being reviewed. The self-assessment shall address the efficiency and effectiveness of each program operation and whether its current operation is consistent with the original legislative intent.
- The Directors of the JLBC and OSPB shall evaluate the program areas according to agreed upon factors. The 2 offices shall jointly produce a report of their findings and recommendations on whether to retain, eliminate, or modify funding and related statutory references for the programs. The findings and recommendations shall include a description of personnel, facilities, equipment, and funding of the strategic program area by all agencies. The report also shall address the views of the 2 offices on the program's efficiency, effectiveness, and necessity and whether the program area should be consolidated into one budget unit, if applicable. The reports are due to the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the Governor by January 1 of each even-numbered year.

- The SPAR reports and staff recommendations will be reviewed by legislative committees. The President of the Senate and Speaker of the House of Representatives shall assign all SPARs to the Appropriations Committees. The Speaker and President may additionally assign the SPAR to a standing committee. The assigned standing committee shall hold at least 1 public hearing for the purpose of receiving public input and developing recommendations to the Appropriations Committees on whether to retain, eliminate, or modify funding and related statutory references. If the Speaker and President choose not to assign a SPAR to an additional standing committee, the Appropriations Committee shall hold at least 1 public hearing.

Laws 1995, Chapter 283 originally prescribed that 20 programs would be reviewed during the 1999 legislative session. Under Laws 1997, Chapter 210, those program reviews were eliminated with the understanding that an undetermined number of programs would be reviewed during 2000 and each succeeding legislative session in an even-numbered year. However, during the 1998 legislative session, the Legislature did not adopt a list of programs to undergo the process for review during the 2000 legislative session.

This year, Laws 1999, Chapter 148 modified the process and specified 3 program areas to undergo review for the 2000 legislative session. Notwithstanding other dates set for the SPAR process, by January 1, 2000, the JLBC Staff and OSPB shall distribute joint reports on the strategic program areas shown below.

The state’s timeline for the strategic planning process is shown on the following page.

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### 1999 Reviews (3 Strategic Program Areas)

<u>Strategic Program Area</u>	<u>Agency</u>
Arizona Ports of Entry	Department of Transportation Department of Public Safety Department of Agriculture
Domestic Violence Programs	Department of Economic Security Judiciary Governor’s Office
University Extended Education Programs	Arizona Board of Regents Arizona State University Northern Arizona University University of Arizona