

Agency Instructions

Responding to Restricted Appropriations or Report Requests

The *Joint Chairmen's Report* (JCR) lists each action adopted by the General Assembly in the budget bill, including reductions and budget bill language, with explanations. Budget language may, among other things, restrict funding pending the submission of a report or other action. The JCR also includes committee narrative adopted by the budget committees, which is generally used to request reports or additional information.

Restricted Appropriations: Where all or a portion of an appropriation is restricted, approval to release restricted funds should be requested in a letter addressed to the budget committee chairs and attached to an email to jcr.docs email address. The correspondence for a request should identify the agency, the amount restricted, the fund source, and should specifically note that the release of restricted funds is being requested. See "Submission Procedures" below for specific direction for all items.

Due Dates for Reports: Please note that some restricted items as well as reports requested via committee narrative have a specific due date. If a due date cannot be met and the agency wishes to request an extension, the agency should prepare a letter to the committee chairs and send as an attachment via email to the jcr.docs email address. The correspondence should indicate why an extension is needed and the anticipated submission date. See "Submission Procedures" below for specific instructions.

Submission Procedures: All correspondence, agency reports, and studies submitted in response to committee narrative or budget bill language are required to be submitted both in electronic form and hard copy:

- **Electronic copies and requests for extension should be sent via email to jcr.docs@mlis.state.md.us with a cc to Sarah.Albert@mlis.state.md.us.** The naming convention for each item should include the session year of the JCR, the page in the JCR on which the item's Information Request appears, an agency abbreviation, and the title of the report (e.g., 2023_p83_DNR_Coyote Population). **The subject line should include JCR REPORT or JCR EXTENSION REQUEST and reflect the session year of the JCR and the page in the JCR on which the item's information request appears.** DLS will distribute electronic copies to the Office of Policy Analysis staff, including the agency's DLS budget analyst, as well as the members of the budget committees. Electronic documents may **EITHER** use Adobe Acrobat **OR** Microsoft Word software, with tables and charts in either Word or through use of embedded (not linked) Excel files. (Word 2013 and Excel 2013 are preferred, but DLS can convert older versions.) **NOTE: If files to be emailed are larger than 10 MB, they cannot be sent via email. Contact jcr.docs@mlis.state.md.us for instructions for posting large files on the DLS FTP site.**

- **Mail five hard copies of correspondence and reports to the legislative library. Please address the packet to:**

**Sarah Albert, Mandated Reports Specialist
DLS Library and Information Services
90 State Circle
Annapolis, MD 21401-1991**