

HJR 17 -- BUDGET RESERVE FUND

SPONSOR: Nasheed (Icet)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass" by the Committee on Budget by a vote of 15 to 11.

Upon voter approval, this proposed constitutional amendment delays repayment to the Budget Reserve Fund for three fiscal years.

FISCAL NOTE: No impact on state funds in FY 2010, FY 2011, and FY 2012.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that the Budget Reserve Fund (Rainy Day Fund) is not being used because it must be paid back the following year. The last time the fund was used was in 1993 for the floods in Missouri. There is \$555.6 million in the fund with \$277 million available today. The economy is in a major emergency. The funds could be used to cover budget shortfalls that result in program cuts and layoffs.

Testifying for the bill was Representative Nasheed.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.