

# **House and Senate Appropriations Chairs' Guidance for Subcommittee Chairs February 7, 2013**

## **Joint Budget Strategy**

- Focus on core functions of government and whether they are adequately funded
- Continue to look for efficiencies across State government, including looking at duplicative programs
- Evaluate appropriate funding level for non-core services, including non-profits and other non-essential services
- Consider ways to strengthen the General Fund; evaluate special funds

## **Subcommittee Work**

- Conduct joint meetings with House and Senate
- Rotate presiding over meetings
- Maintain transparency (open meetings & web pages)
- Start with joint educational meetings
  - Fiscal Research staff will provide relevant budget background
  - Review past legislative budget and policy actions
  - Review interim committee reports
  - Review federal changes impacting states
  - Hear Governor's Budget (when appropriate)
- Refer certain items to the Full Chairs
  - Salary-related items, debt service, or other Statewide issues
  - Fee increases/decreases
  - Unresolved items
- Consult other subcommittees as necessary

## **Guidance Forthcoming**

- Spending targets
- Subcommittee deliberations and voting
- Special provisions