



Dems Unhappy With POG

House Republicans are poised to trot out the fruits of their Price of Government (POG) labors at the next House Appropriations Committee meeting Thursday by releasing the so-called "result maps" with the corresponding "key factors." (MIRS has listed these at the bottom of this story).

These are the documents that purport to rank state services in order of effectiveness. Democrats are ready to ambush them with complaints about how long this process has taken, resulting in no concrete debate on the new budget. One source will call it "a waste of time."

Observed huddling against the east wall of the Senate earlier this week were Sen. Deb CHERRY, (D-Burton), Senate Appropriations Minority Vice Chair Mike PRUSI (D-Ishpeming) and House Appropriations Minority Vice Chair Gretchen WHITMER (D-East Lansing).

Reportedly, they were laying out a strategy for blaming the GOP for slowing down the budget process due to all the "Result Team" meetings, which have now ended. Those meetings were dictated by POG blueprint.

House Democrats were "skeptical" of the POG process from the get-go, due in part to the hefty \$700,000 donation from the Michigan Chamber of Commerce and the REALTORS, which some Democrats concluded would influence the review process.

Democrats are set to complain there was supposed to be a bi-partisan effort, but it was actually a "stacked" process with the GOP holding more votes on the "Result Teams" than the minority party.

Plus, Republicans walked into some of the meetings with the so-called "Maps" already completed, according to one source. Democrats believe it was a "sham" process, which has postponed any substantive budget deliberations until after Spring Break.

It's unclear if the Dems will be returning their POG books to the library.

The following are the "key factors" that are set to be released tomorrow as part of the House Republicans' presentation:

Kids are succeeding in school

State-funded programs under this result will be based on how well they impact these key factors:

- Kids' basic needs are met to prepare them to learn
- Parents and communities reinforce importance of education
- Students are engaged in learning

To measure the long-term progress of these results, the House suggests looking at:

- Percentage of 5-year-olds who meet age-appropriate development standards

- Percentage of students who meet or exceed expectations on state assessments
- Percentage of high school graduates/seniors pursuing post-secondary education, vocational training or the military

The Economy Is Thriving and People Are Working

State-funded programs under this result will be based on how well they impact these key factors:

- Skilled workforce
- Access to capital
- Access to quality, cost-effective, sustainable resources
- Receptive markets for companies' goods and services
- Technology and knowledge transfer
- Positive business climate
- Desirable communities

To measure the long-term progress of these results, the House suggests looking at:

- Adjusted unemployment rate (Bureau of Labor Statistics)
- Civilian labor force employment rate (Bureau of Labor Statistics)
- Employment diversification in non-auto industries
- Average weekly earnings rate (Bureau of Labor Statistics)
- Per capita income (Census Bureau)
- Measure of income distribution rate (Census Bureau)
- Consumer debt as a percentage of total personal incomes
- State consumer confidence (MSU Annual State of the State citizen survey)
- State-local tax burden (Tax Foundation)
- Entrepreneurial Dynamism (The Competitiveness Group)
- Governor's Cup (Site Selection Magazine)

Our natural resources are protected and preserved

State-funded programs under this result will be based on how well they impact these key factors:

- Stewardship — management and accessibility of public resources
- Behavior — voluntary citizen involvement
- Regulation — safeguards and standards

To measure the long-term progress of these results, the House suggests looking at:

- Number of days the state meets air quality standards (Michigan's Environmental Report)
- Designated use of the water (Michigan's Environmental Report)
- Surface water chemistry and availability of quality groundwater (Michigan's Environmental Report)
- Production and consumption of renewable/non-renewable energy resources (Department of Treasury)
- Production and consumption of forest products (Department of Treasury)
- Number of days the average citizen is engaged in outdoor activities (Department of Natural Resources' State Recreation Plan)

- Trend in exotic species (Michigan's Environmental Report)
- Change in endangered species (Michigan's Environmental Report)
- Trends in plant and animal health and population (DNR and Department of Agriculture)

People are safe where they live, work and play

State-funded programs under this result will be based on how well they impact these key factors:

- Prevention
- Effective and fair justice service
- Law enforcement
- Timely and effective response to emergencies
- Reduced recidivism
- Workplace safety

To make measure the long-term progress of these results, the House suggests looking at:

- Number of index crimes plus non-index criminal sexual conduct crimes per 100,000 people (Michigan State Police)
- Number of reported domestic violence incidents per 100,000 people (Michigan State Police)
- Number of children associated with child protective filing per 100,000 kids under age 16 (State Court Administrative Office)

People are healthy

State-funded programs under this result will be based on how well they impact these key factors:

- Personal health and lifestyles decision
- Access to appropriate care and support services
- Quality of health care
- Environmental factors

To make measure the long-term progress of these results, the House suggests looking at:

- Percentage of people with health insurance (Center for Disease Control)
- Number of people served by "safety net providers"
- Dollars of uncompensated care provided (Department of Community Health)
- Ratio of providers/population, by county (DCH)
- Use of preventative care services
- Teen birth rate
- Mortality rate due to alcohol/drug abuse
- Infection rate for Chlamydia/gonorrhea
- Participation in a physical activity in the past month
- Eating five or more servings of fruits and vegetables daily
- Smoking daily
- Considered obese
- Infant mortality rate
- Low birth-weight babies
- Immunizations
- Well-child visits
- Child health screenings
- Prenatal care
- Percentage of hospital complying with patient quality and safety standards (Leapfrog Hospital Quality and Safety survey)
- Rate of "adverse events" in hospitals and surgical centers

The most vulnerable live free from harm and as self-sufficiently as possible

- Poor without internal supports
- Elderly and disabled at risk

- Abused and neglected

State-funded programs under this result will be based on how well they impact these key factors:

- Safety net supports, public and private
- Community recognition and commitment
- Self-support
- Family stability
- Protection from harm

To make measure the long-term progress of these results, the House suggests looking at:

- Abuse and neglect statistics from the Family Independence Agency, among others
- Percentage of elderly adults and disabled people who are at risk for institutionalization but live in community-based settings
- Poverty statistics from the Family Independence Agency

Government is effective, efficient and accountable

State-funded programs under this result will be based on how well they impact these key factors:

- Fairness, equality, credibility
- Performance measurement
- Performance matters
- Results-based systems
- Compliance

To make measure the long-term progress of these results, the House suggests looking at:

- Response to question on citizen satisfaction with state government (MSU State of the State survey of Michigan residents)
- University of Michigan Customer Satisfaction Index
- Rating of satisfaction via customer feedback cards for specific functions
- Roll up an index of the indicators from the other eight results and divide it by the price of government
- Citizen survey on perceived value-for-dollar of state government
- Citizen survey on perceived responsiveness of state government
- Rating of responsiveness by those who have direct contact with government services

People and goods move around the state quickly and safely

State-funded programs under this result will be based on how well they impact these key factors:

- Capacity of the transportation system
- Condition of the transportation system
- User satisfaction

To make measure the long-term progress of these results, the House suggests looking at:

- Condition rating of Michigan roadways (Michigan Transportation Asset Management Council)
- Condition rating of Michigan bridges (Michigan Transportation Asset Management Council)
- Congestion profile (Department of Transportation)
- Level of public transit use (Department of Transportation)
- Operator cost per vehicle mile
- User cost (AAA)
- Survey of business choice — by cost and time
- Crash rate per 100 million vehicle miles traveled (State Police)
- Injury and death rate per 100 million vehicle miles traveled (State Police)

The results of "Prepared for Jobs" was not available.

(Contributed by Senior Capital Correspondent Tim SKUBICK.)