

OMB in Perspective

“A budget is much more than a collection of numbers. A budget is a reflection of a nation’s priorities, its needs, and its promise.”

- President George W. Bush

OMB's Mission

- *OMB assists the President in the development and implementation of budget, program, management, and regulatory policies*
- *OMB fulfills this role primarily by:*
 - *Developing the President's annual budget submission to Congress*
 - *Assisting the President in managing the Executive Branch, developing the Administration's position on legislation before Congress, and executing the law*
 - *Providing the highest quality regulatory analysis*

OMB's Assistance Includes:

- *Preparing the annual budget submission and implementing the budget after it is enacted into law*
- *Promoting best practices management across the Federal government*
- *Ensuring efficient and quality program performance*
- *Conducting in-depth regulatory review of significant rules proposed by federal agencies*
- *Aligning agencies' actions, policies, statements, and proposals to reflect the President's policy*

Federal Government Today

- *14 Cabinet Agencies*
- *Over 100 Agencies, Boards and Commissions*
- *4.8 million military and civilian employees*

Evolution of OMB

- *Budget & Accounting Act of 1921*
(Created Bureau of Budget (BOB) in Treasury, single budget to Congress, revenue and appropriations bill procedures)
- *BOB moved To Executive Office of President 1939*
(Financial Operations left at Treasury, Executive Order implemented Broad Management Oversight)
- *OMB created in 1970*
(BOB reorganized into Office of Management and Budget (OMB))
- *Congressional Budget Act of 1974*
(Created Congressional Budget Office (CBO) and Congressional Budget Committees)
- *Budget Enforcement Act of 1990*
(Established enforceable annual spending limits for appropriations and a “pay-as-you-go” requirement for all mandatory spending and revenue legislation)

Inside OMB

“OMB stands at a critical point within the nerve center of the federal government and holds a key position in the communications network that links the President, the rest of the Executive Branch, and the Congress. So positioned, it can exert a significant impact on public policy outcomes through its budgetary, legislative, managerial, and regulation review mandates.”

- Shelly Lynn Tomkin

Author: Inside OMB, 1998