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| Issue Summary | Should the option to override all budgetary control (by expense account) exceptions be brought forward? |
| Background | Institutions had trouble getting transactions to successfully pass budget checking when the PeopleSoft system was initially implemented. As a result, a model change request was submitted to allow all transactions to bypass commitment control. Since the system has stabilized, institutions are continuing to use the functionality instead of practicing "fiscal responsibility" in managing their budgets. USG needs to determine if the customization should be brought forward or can it be eliminated in lieu of the new functionality introduced in R8.9 (see possible solutions). |
| Risks | <p>If the customization is eliminated.....</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Institutions may not be able to complete closing activities in a timely manner 2. Vendors may have trouble getting paid, therefore services may be interrupted 3. Workload could increase on the accounting staff because they are resolving budget exceptions that were normally overridden in the past. |
| Possible Solution(s) | <p>PeopleSoft R8.9 offers a number of configuration options that will produce the same desired outcome</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Budget attributes can be defined for a chartfield combination to allow commitment control to view the string as a "tracking" budget instead of a "control" budget • Ledger group control rules can be assigned to allow commitment control to view the string as a "tracking" budget instead of a "control" budget • Source transaction options can be specified to allow commitment control to view the string as a "tracking" budget instead of a "control" budget • The customization could be carried forward |
| Escalating Sub-team and Lead | Functional – Deidre Crawford |
| Recommended Action | Setting budget attributes and control budget definitions would require a lot of manual configuration. Source transactions provide a palatable option, but open the system to risk since they govern the inner workings |



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| | <p>of commitment control. The development effort to retrofit the customization is minimal. The functionality offered in the customization gives institutions maximum flexibility with minimum manual effort.</p> <p>Conclusion: The recommendation is to bring forward the customization and examine the business process by which the option is set. USG should discuss implementing a random audit of the override option to ensure the functionality is not being misused. Enhancements to the customization should be considered such as emailing USO when the option is enabled and disabled.</p> |
| Steering Committee Comments | <p>The BPSC decided to eliminate the budget override customization in favor of setting control ledger definitions to track. BPSC members stated they should only need this functionality at year end. Security to maintain ledger values will be limited to the GLFND user class.</p> |