

Legislative Council Staff *Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature*

Memorandum

June 7, 2024

TO: Members of the General Assembly

FROM: Katie Ruedebusch, Principal Research Analyst, 303-866-3001

SUBJECT: 2024 Interim Committee Information

Summary

This memorandum summarizes the policies and procedures for committees meeting during the 2024 legislative interim. Table I lists all legislative committees staffed by legislative staff that are authorized to meet during the 2024 interim.

Interim Committee Overview

Interim committees meet during the legislative interim to study a specific issue or topic. Joint Rule 24A governs procedures for interim committees, and applies to committees created in statute, by the Executive Committee of the Legislative Council, or through the interim committee letter request process. The rule provides the following regarding interim committees.

- If the number of interim committee meetings has not otherwise been set, an interim committee may not exceed six meetings without prior approval from the Executive Committee.
- Expenses for interim committee travel must be approved by the Executive Committee prior to any travel.
- Expenses and per diem must be paid to legislative members of the committee.
- The Executive Committee must approve the use of any additional staff resources requested by an interim committee.

Bill Request Process

A central part of interim committee activity for many committees is the opportunity to request legislation. Joint Rule 24A provides the following regarding interim legislation.

• Interim committees must report their requests for legislation to the Legislative Council by October 15 in even-numbered years and by November 15 in odd-numbered years.



- Committee bills approved by the Legislative Council are exempt from a member's five-bill introduction limit.
- Legislation approved by the Legislative Council will be introduced during the 2025 legislative session.
- Joint Rule 24A requires the Executive Committee to annually establish procedures and deadlines for the interim committee bill request process. The 2024 guidelines, appended as Attachment A, are summarized below.
- Bill requests must be made at a single interim committee meeting and must be approved by a majority of the total legislative membership of the committee.
- In 2024, this meeting may be held no later than August 20.
- A committee may request the drafting of no more than twice the number of bills the interim committee is authorized to recommend to the Legislative Council.
- Members requesting draft legislation must provide drafting information within three calendar days of making the request, or the request is deemed withdrawn.
- No later than 21 days after the meeting at which bills are requested, the bill drafts must be finalized so that a fiscal note may be prepared.
- If the bill sponsor does not finalize the draft bill by this date, the draft bill will be deemed finalized and will be released for purposes of preparing the fiscal note.
- Once a draft is finalized for distribution to the interim committee and released for fiscal analysis, the bill is public and may posted on the committee's website.
- After a draft bill has been finalized, interim committee members may not modify the draft bill and must present all changes to the draft bill as amendments during the meeting at which the draft bill is considered.
- No earlier than 21 days after the draft bills are finalized, the committee must hold a meeting to consider and take final action on draft bills.
- In 2024, this meeting may be held no later than **October 1**.
- In order to be forwarded to the Legislative Council, bills must be approved by a majority of the total legislative membership of the committee.

Number of bill requests. A committee's authorizing legislation specifies the total number of bills that it may forward to the Legislative Council. If the total number of bills is not specified, committees may recommend no more than five bills to the Legislative Council. When making requests for bill drafts, members are encouraged to be mindful of the total number of bills that the committee is authorized to recommend to the Legislative Council. Committees are



discouraged from approving bills with very broad subjects that include a number of topics as a way to circumvent the limit on bill requests.

Bill sponsorship. After a bill has been approved by a committee, the chair of the committee assigns bill sponsors and designates whether the bill will start in the House or Senate. Bills recommended by an interim committee do not need to be sponsored by a member of the committee making the recommendation.

Unless approved by an interim committee, no other legislators may be added as sponsors or cosponsors of the legislation, and no prime sponsors, sponsors, or cosponsors may be removed from the legislation prior to introduction of the legislation in the next legislative session. However, if prior to introduction a legislator resigns or otherwise is no longer a member, then the sponsor's name will be removed as a prime sponsor, sponsor, or cosponsor. If prior to introduction a member is elected or appointed to the other chamber and the member was a prime sponsor, the member will be removed as a prime sponsor. If prior to introduction a member is elected or appointed to the other chamber and the member was a sponsor or cosponsor the member's sponsorship or cosponsorship will be switched to the other chamber.

Updated bills and fiscal notes. Committee bill drafts will be updated prior to the Legislative Council meeting to include any amendments adopted by the committee at its final meeting, and to list the sponsors of the bills. Fiscal notes are not updated for the Legislative Council meeting.

Legislative Council meeting. The Legislative Council will meet to review interim committee legislation on October 15, 2024. At this meeting, the chairs of the interim committees will present the committees' requests for legislation to the council. Traditionally, the council's role in this process is to ensure that legislation recommended by a committee fits within the committee's charge. The Legislative Council does not consider amendments to the bills at this meeting, and a bill may not be modified or amended prior to introduction.

Remote Participation and Remote Testimony

The Executive Committee has adopted a remote participation policy for joint committees meeting during the legislative interim. ¹ The policy:

 permits members of the General Assembly to participate electronically in committee meetings occurring during the legislative interim;

¹ https://leg.colorado.gov/sites/default/files/signed_2023_interim_remote_participation.pdf



- allows members of a committee meeting during the legislative interim who are participating
 electronically to be marked as "present" for purposes of attendance and to establish a
 quorum, vote, make motions, and speak to matters before the committee;
- requires a member of joint committee who wants to participate electronically to notify the chair, the staff, and IT staff at least one day prior to the meeting; and
- requires members to turn on their cameras while voting.

The policy does not apply to the House or Senate Services Committees, the House or Senate Workplace Harassment Committees, and the House or Senate ethics committees.

In addition, legislative committees may take remote public testimony under a separate Executive Committee policy.² Note that not all legislative committees take public testimony and the policy does not require legislative committees to take public testimony.

Committees Meeting During the 2024 Interim

Table I lists the committees authorized to meet during the 2024 legislative interim. The table includes committees that meet annually during the legislative interim and year-round committees that meet both during the interim and legislative session. The table includes only committees staffed by nonpartisan legislative staff.

For each committee, the table provides information on the number of meetings the committee is authorized to hold; the number of members; how many, if any, bills the committee is authorized to carry; the study topics for the committee; the repeal date for the committee; and whether the committee must report its requests for legislation to the Legislative Council.

² https://leg.colorado.gov/sites/default/files/signed executive committee remote testimony policy 2023.pdf



Table I: Committees Meeting During the 2024 Legislative Interim

Committee	Number of Meetings	Number of Members	Number of Bills	Study Topics	Repeal Date
American Indian Affairs Interim Study Committee Letter Request	Up to 4 times during the 2024 interim. One tour of Colorado's reservation lands.	3 members of the Senate and 3 members of the House.	3	The study committee creates a legislative forum to build better relationships with American Indian communities and to address challenges faced by American Indians in Colorado.	2024 interim only
Artificial Intelligence Impact Task Force (formerly the Task Force for the Consideration of Facial Recognition Services) Section 2-3-1707, C.R.S.	Must meet at least 5 times, beginning in September 2024.	26 members including 2 House members and 2 Senate members.	None	The task force examines issues related to artificial intelligence, and must report recommendations to the Joint Technology Committee and the Governor's Office by February 1, 2025.	Sept. 1, 2027

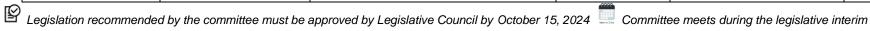




Table I: Committees Meeting During the 2024 Legislative Interim

Committee	Number of Meetings	Number of Members	Number of Bills	Study Topics	Repeal Date
Black Coloradan Racial Equity Study Commission Sections 2-2-2303 and 2-2-2304	Up to 6 times a calendar year, and shall not meet during the legislative session, except that meetings during the first 3 months do not count and the commission may meet once a session following updates from History Colorado.	14 members: 2 members of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker; 2 members of the Senate appointed by the President: 4 nonlegislators appointed by the Governor; 3 nonlegislators appointed by the Speaker; 3 nonlegislators appointed by the President. Appointments are due September 1, 2024.	None	If sufficient donations are received, the commission will conduct a study to determine and make recommendations to any potential historical and ongoing effects of slavery and subsequent systemic racism on Black Coloradoans. The commission will oversee History Colorado in conducting the study and, based on the study and available funding, will contract with a third-party entity to conduct an economic analysis.	If sufficient donations are received, four years after the bill takes effect
Capital Development Committee Section 2-3-1301, et seq., C.R.S.	As often as necessary.	6 members of the General Assembly; 3 from the House and 3 from the Senate	Not limited	The committee is responsible for reviewing funding requests for capital projects from all state agencies, and making prioritized recommendations to the Joint Budget Committee.	None

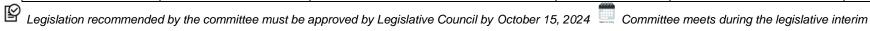




Table I: Committees Meeting During the 2024 Legislative Interim (Cont.)

Committee	Number of Meetings	Number of Members	Number of Bills	Study Topics	Repeal Date
Capitol Building Advisory Committee Section 24-82-108, C.R.S.	No less than 3 per year.	12 members including: 3 appointed by the Speaker, including 1 member of the House; 3 appointed by the President, including 1 member of the Senate; 3 appointed by the Governor; an architect, appointed by the Governor; and the following ex officio members: the President of the State Historical Society or designee and the Executive Director of the Department of Personnel and Administration or designee.	None	The committee must review plans to restore, redecorate, or reconstruct space within the state Capitol building and make recommendations to the Capital Development Committee based on such plans.	None
Cell Phone Connectivity Interim Study Committee Letter Request	Up to 4 times during the 2024 interim. Up to two field trips to assess cell phone connectivity in the state.	3 members of the Senate and 3 members of the House.	3	The purpose of the committee is to study cell phone connectivity in the state with a focus on identifying gaps in cell phone coverage.	2024 interim only

Legislation recommended by the committee must be approved by Legislative Council by October 15, 2024 Committee meets during the legislative interim



Table I: Committees Meeting During the 2024 Legislative Interim (Cont.)

Committee	Number of Meetings	Number of Members	Number of Bills	Study Topics	Repeal Date
Colorado Commission on Uniform State Laws Section 2-3-601 et seq., C.R.S.	At least once annually at the call of the chair.	6 members; at least 2 must be members of the General Assembly and 2 must be members of the public. The members must be attorneys. The General Assembly appoints the members by joint resolution.	Not limited	The commission prepares a report containing its recommendations to the General Assembly on or before January 1 of each year concerning uniform laws and the proceedings and recommendations of the most recent meeting of the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws.	None
Colorado Health Insurance Exchange Oversight Committee Section 10-22-107, C.R.S.	At least once annually; limited to 7 total meetings when the General Assembly is not in session. The committee may meet an unlimited number of times during the legislative session.	10 members of the General Assembly; 5 from the House and 5 from the Senate, including 6 members from either the Health, Business, or Audit committees.	8	The committee reviews the financial and operational plans of Colorado's health insurance exchange. It reviews grants applied for by the exchange's board of directors and recommends legislation on the operation of the exchange.	None





Table I: Committees Meeting During the 2024 Legislative Interim (Cont.)

Committee	Number of Meetings	Number of Members	Number of Bills	Study Topics	Repeal Date
Representative Hugh McKean Colorado Youth Advisory Council Review Committee Section 2-2-1305.5, C.R.S.	Up to 3 times each interim.	4 legislative members of the Colorado Youth Advisory Council, 5 non-legislative council members who are appointed by the council, and 1 member of the Legislative Council. The 5 legislative members of the review committee serve as voting members. All other members are nonvoting members.	3	The committee reviews the Colorado Youth Advisory Council's work and recommends legislation regarding issues affecting Colorado youth.	Sept. 1, 2028
Committee on Legal Services Section 2-3-502, C.R.S.	At least twice each calendar year, but may meet as often as necessary.	10 members of the General Assembly including: The respective chairs of the House and Senate Judiciary committees or their designees; 4 members for the House, 1 of whom is an attorney; and 4 members of the Senate, 1 of whom is an attorney.	Not limited	The committee is the legislative oversight committee for the Office of Legislative Legal Services and oversees the review of executive branch agency rules among other legislative duties.	None

Legislation recommended by the committee must be approved by Legislative Council by October 15, 2024 Committee meets during the legislative interim



Table I: Committees Meeting During the 2024 Legislative Interim (Cont.)

Commission on Property Tax Section 2-2-2201, C.R.S.	As often as necessary	19 members; 4 members of the General Assembly; 5 county commissioners; the state Property Tax Administrator; a mayor or elected city council person; a current or former assessor; the executive director of the Special District Association of Colorado; a chief financial officer of a school district; a representative of a statewide organization that represents Colorado educators; a representative of an organization that represents Colorado property owners; a fire chief; a representative of an organization with expertise in advocating for low-income individuals, seniors, individuals with fixed incomes, or residential tenants; the executive director of a statewide or	None	The commission must identify the causes of increasing property taxes, review best practices for short- and long- term property tax relief, review potential ballot initiatives, and make final recommendations by December 31, 2024.	Dec. 31, 2024
		residential tenants; the executive director of a statewide or regional business organization.			





Table I: Committees Meeting During the 2024 Legislative Interim (Cont.)

Committee	Number of Meetings	Number of Members	Number of Bills	Study Topics	Repeal Date
Joint Budget Committee Section 2-3-201, et seq., C.R.S.	As often as is necessary to perform its functions.	6 members of the General Assembly: 3 from the House and 3 from the Senate, including the Appropriations Committee chairs.	Not limited	The committee studies the management, operations, programs, and fiscal needs of the state government agencies and institutions of Colorado state government and holds hearings to review the executive budget and the budget requests of each state agency and institution, including capital construction, capital renewal, or controlled maintenance budget requests and information technology budget requests.	None
Joint Technology Committee Section 2-3-1701, et seq., C.R.S.	At least once each year in order to review the Governor's budget submissions for information technology, and as often as necessary to perform its functions.	6 members of the General Assembly; 3 from the House and 3 from the Senate. The members of the committee should have experience in information technology, business analysis, or business process.	Not limited	The committee has oversight responsibility for major state technology projects and the Governor's Office of Information Technology (OIT).	None

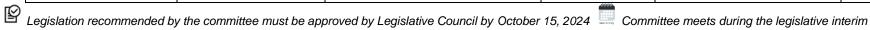




Table I: Committees Meeting During the 2024 Legislative Interim (Cont.)

Committee	Number of Meetings	Number of Members	Number of Bills	Study Topics	Repeal Date
Language Access Advisory Board Section 2-3-2001, et. seq.,	At least 4 meetings in 2024. The chair may call additional meetings.	11 voting members: 3 members of the House; 2 members of the Senate; 6 nonlegislative members; 2 nonvoting members representing LCS and OLLS.	None	The board is to study and make recommendations for improving meaningful access to the legislative process for populations with limited English proficiency. The board must submit a report to the Executive Committee by December 15, 2024.	January 1, 2025
Legislative Audit Committee Section 2-3-101, et seq., C.R.S.	As often as necessary, but it shall meet at least once in each quarter of the calendar year.	8 members of the General Assembly: 4 from the House and 4 from the Senate.	Not limited	The committee is responsible for reviewing and releasing audit reports and recommending special studies. The committee also recommends an appointment for State Auditor to the leadership of the General Assembly every five years.	None

Legislation recommended by the committee must be approved by Legislative Council by October 15, 2024 Committee meets during the legislative interim

Committee meets year-round Has/Is a task force or subcommittee do Oversight committee for a legislative staff agency



Table I: Committees Meeting During the 2024 Legislative Interim (Cont.)

Committee	Number of Meetings	Number of Members	Number of Bills	Study Topics	Repeal Date
Legislative Council & Executive Committee of the Legislative Council Section 2-3-301, C.R.S.	As often as necessary, but the council must meet at least quarterly.	Legislative Council: 18 members, including the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Majority Leaders of the House and Senate, the Minority Leaders of the House and Senate, and 6 members each from the House and Senate, appointed in proportion generally to party representation in each chamber. Executive Committee: 6 members consists of the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the Majority and Minority Leaders from each chamber.	Not limited	The Legislative Council is the legislative oversight committee for the Legislative Council Staff, and is responsible for approving the Legislative Council Staff budget, approving written requests for interim study committees, reviewing legislation created by committees that meet during the legislative interim, and reviewing the ballot information booklet prepared by Legislative Council Staff. The Executive Committee of the Legislative Council provides oversight over the legislative service agencies and their directors, establishes policies regarding legislative management and procedures, and introduces the annual legislative appropriation bill.	None



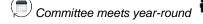




Table I: Committees Meeting During the 2024 Legislative Interim (Cont.)

Committee	Number of Meetings	Number of Members	Number of Bills	Study Topics	Repeal Date
Legislative Emergency Preparedness, Response, and Recovery Committee Section 2-3-1503, C.R.S.	At least once annually.	11 members, including 2 members from the House and 2 members from the Senate. Other members include individuals representing the nonpartisan legislative staff agencies.	Not limited	The committee is responsible for developing and updating a plan for the response by, and continuation of operations of, the General Assembly and the legislative service agencies in the event of an emergency epidemic or disaster and may also recommend legislation on this topic.	None
Legislative Oversight Committee Concerning Colorado Jail Standards Part 19 of Article 3 of Title 2, C.R.S.	No more than 4 times annually	6 members of the General Assembly; 3 from the Senate and 3 from the House.	3	The committee is responsible for maintaining, updating, and modifying Colorado Jail Standards, and reviewing the report from the Jail Standards Advisory Committee in the Department of Public Safety.	Sept. 1, 2033

Legislation recommended by the committee must be approved by Legislative Council by October 15, 2024 Committee meets during the legislative interim



Table I: Committees Meeting During the 2024 Legislative Interim (Cont.)

Committee	Number of Meetings	Number of Members	Number of Bills	Study Topics	Repeal Date
Legislative Oversight Committee Concerning Tax Policy Part 4 of Article 21 of Title 39, C.R.S	Oversight Committee: At least 4 times each year, and at other times as it deems necessary. Oversight committee members must attend at least one task force meeting. Task Force: At least 6 times each year.	Oversight Committee: 6 members of the General Assembly; 3 from the House and 3 from the Senate. Task Force: 21 members, including 4 members representing the nonpartisan legislative staff agencies, 4 Executive Branch members, and 13 member of the public.	5	The committee studies tax policy, considers the policy considerations contained in the tax expenditure evaluations prepared by the State Auditor, and oversees the task force. The task force studies tax policy and develops and proposes tax policy modifications for committee consideration.	Dec. 31, 2031
Override Mill Levy Match Working Group	At least 3 times, but no more than 5 times, during the 2024 legislative interim unless more meetings are authorized by the Executive Committee.	7 nonlegislative members who are chief financial officers; 1 House member, appointed by the Speaker, who serves as Chair; 1 member of the Senate, appointed by the Senate Minority leader, who serves as vice-chair.	None	The group is to make recommendations concerning modifying the override mill levy match to ensure more equitable funding distributions and greater access to funding for eligible districts and eligible institute charger schools. By December 31, 2024, the working group must submit a report to the Executive Committee, the House and Senate Education Committees, and the JBC.	July 1, 2026



Legislation recommended by the committee must be approved by Legislative Council by October 15, 2024 Committee meets during the legislative interim

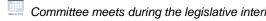








Table I: Committees Meeting During the 2024 Legislative Interim (Cont.)

Committee	Number of Meetings	Number of Members	Number of Bills	Study Topics	Repeal Date
Pension Review Commission & Pension Review Subcommittee Section 24-51.1-101, C.R.S.	Limited to 6 total meetings.	Commission: 10 members of the General Assembly, 5 from the House and 5 from the Senate. Subcommittee: 14 members, including 4 legislators and 10 public members with knowledge of investment management, corporate or public finance, etc., appointed by the Speaker, President, Minority Leaders, Governor, and State Treasurer. Members of the subcommittee are required to attend at least one meeting per year of the board of trustees of PERA, the hearing of the Legislative Audit Committee when the committee reviews PERA's annual actuarial valuation; and the Joint Finance Committee SMART Act hearing on PERA.	5	The commission studies and proposes legislation relating to funding of police officers' and firefighters' pensions in this state and benefit designs of such pension plans. In addition, the commission studies and develops legislation regarding the Public Employees' Retirement Association (PERA). The subcommittee studies issues related to PERA and makes necessary recommendations to the commission and PERA regarding the statutes governing PERA; suggests to PERA enhancements that the association could make to its annual analysis; reviews PERA's annual actuarial valuation and makes comments as necessary to PERA; issues an annual report on PERA achieving full funding by 2048, and makes recommendations to the commission regarding issues that the commission may wish to address through legislation.	None

Legislation recommended by the committee must be approved by Legislative Council by October 15, 2024 Committee meets during the legislative interim



Table I: Committees Meeting During the 2024 Legislative Interim (Cont.)





Table I: Committees Meeting During the 2024 Legislative Interim (Cont.)

Committee	Number of Meetings	Number of Members	Number of Bills	Study Topics	Repeal Date
Statewide Health Care Review Committee Section 10-16-221, C.R.S.	No more than 2 times each interim, which can both be field trips.	No more than 10 members of the House and Senate Health Committees.	None	The committee studies health care issues that affect Colorado residents throughout the state.	None
Statutory Revision Committee Section 2-3-901, et seq., C.R.S.	The committee may meet as often as necessary, but it shall meet at least twice in each calendar year.	10 members including: 4 from the House; 4 from the Senate; and 2 nonvoting non-legislative members, appointed by the Committee on Legal Services, who are attorneys-at-law admitted to practice in Colorado.	Not limited	The committee makes an ongoing examination of the statutes of the state and current judicial decisions for the purpose of discovering defects and anachronisms in the law and recommending needed reforms.	None
Transportation Legislation Review Committee Section 43-2-145, C.R.S.	At least once annually; limited to 6 total meetings.	18 members of the House and Senate Transportation committees; 11 from the House and 7 from the Senate.	5	The committee reviews transportation, traffic, and motor vehicle legislation and may consult with experts in the fields of traffic regulation, the licensing of drivers, the registration and titling of motor vehicles, and highway construction and planning.	None



Legislation recommended by the committee must be approved by Legislative Council by October 15, 2024 🗒 Committee meets during the legislative interim









Table I: Committees Meeting During the 2024 Legislative Interim (Cont.)

Committee	Number of Meetings	Number of Members	Number of Bills	Study Topics	Repeal Date
Treatment of Persons with Behavioral Health Disorders in the Criminal and Juvenile Justice Systems Oversight Committee and Task Force Section 18-1.9-101, et seq., C.R.S.	Oversight Committee: At least 3 times per year, and at other times as it deems necessary. Committee members must attend at least one regular task force meeting. Task Force: at least 6 times per year, or more often as directed by the oversight committee chair.	Oversight Committee: 6 members of the General Assembly; 3 from the House and 3 from the Senate Task Force: 31 representatives of various state agencies, community agencies, and other entities and organizations relating to criminal and juvenile justice.	5	The committee is responsible for overseeing the task force, submitting a report to the General Assembly each January 15, and recommending bills. The task force annually defines its scope of work and makes legislative recommendations to the oversight committee. The task force must submit a report to the task force each August 1.	July 1, 2027
Water Resources and Agriculture Review Committee Section 37-98-101, et seq. C.R.S.	At least 4 times a calendar year, at the call of the chair. The committee may also take field trips.	10 members of the General Assembly; 5 from the House and 5 from the Senate. At least 4 of the members must reside in or represent an area west of the Continental Divide.	3 bills, unless 2/3 of members vote to approve more. Maximum of 10 bills.	The committee is responsible for contributing to and monitoring the conservation, use, development, and financing of the water resources of Colorado for the general welfare of its inhabitants; identifying, monitoring, and addressing Colorado agriculture issues; and reviewing and proposing water resources and agriculture legislation. The committee may also review updates to the Colorado State Water Plan.	None

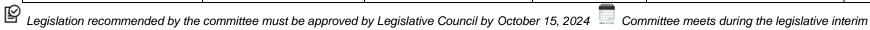
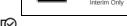


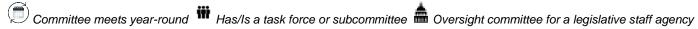


Table I: Committees Meeting During the 2024 Legislative Interim (Cont.)

Committee	Number of Meetings	Number of Members	Number of Bills	Study Topics	Repeal Date
Wildfire Matters Review Committee Section 2-3-1602, C.R.S.	At least once each interim including 2 field trips; limited to 6 total meetings.	10 members of the General Assembly; 5 from the House and 5 from the Senate.	5	The committee studies wildfire prevention and mitigation, including public safety, forest health, and cooperation with appropriate federal	Sept. 1, 2025
Interim Only				agencies and local governments.	



Legislation recommended by the committee must be approved by Legislative Council by October 15, 2024 Committee meets during the legislative interim



COLORADO GENERAL ASSEMBLY

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Rep. Julie McCluskie, Chair Sen. Stephen Fenberg, Vice-chair

Rep. Monica Duran Sen. Robert Rodriguez Rep. Rose Pugliese

Sen. Paul Lundeen



STAFFNatalie Castle, Director

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

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E-mail: <u>lcs.ga@coleg.gov</u> 303-866-3521 FAX: 303-866-3855

TO: Chairs of Interim Committees

FROM: Members of the Executive Committee of Legislative Council

DATE: March 5, 2024

SUBJECT: 2024 Interim Committee Deadlines and Procedures for Proposing Legislation

In accordance with Joint Rule 24A (d)(2.6) and (d)(2.7), for the 2024 interim, the Executive Committee has adopted the below deadlines and procedures for the operation of any statutory committees, interim study committees, and task forces, referred to collectively as "interim committees", that are authorized to propose legislation.¹ The deadlines and procedures are intended to allow adequate time for the Office of Legislative Legal Services (OLLS) to draft legislation and for Legislative Council Staff (LCS) to prepare fiscal notes² in time for interim committees to vote on legislation and for the Legislative Council to approve legislation prior to the deadlines specified in Joint Rule 24 (b)(1)(D).

¹ The recommended deadlines are based on the assumption that the Legislative Council will meet on or around October 15, 2024, to consider whether to approve interim committee legislation in accordance with Joint Rule 24 (b)(1)(D).

² Pursuant to section 2-2-322 (4), C.R.S., Legislative Council Staff is required to prepare and provide to interim committees, before a final vote on proposed interim committee legislation, fiscal notes on the proposed legislation being considered by the committees.

<u>Deadlines for Interim Committee Legislation.</u> In accordance with Joint Rule 24A (d)(2.6), **by the first meeting or as soon as possible after the first meeting** of the interim committee, the interim committee chair shall:

- A) Set a date for a single meeting at which the interim committee may request legislation for drafting by OLLS, which date must be **at least 42 days before** the meeting at which the interim committee will consider and take final action on proposed legislation and **no later than August 20, 2024**;³
- B) Set a date by which interim committee members must finalize legislation drafts or that drafts will be deemed finalized for distribution to the interim committee and release to LCS for purposes of preparing fiscal notes on proposed legislation, which date must be *no sooner than 21 days after* the meeting when the legislation is requested, *at least 21 days before* the meeting at which the committee will consider the proposed legislation and fiscal notes, and *no later than September 10, 2024*;
- C) Set a date for a subsequent meeting at which the interim committee will consider and take final action on proposed legislation, which meeting must be **no later than October 1, 2024**.

I) <u>Procedures for Requesting Legislation and for Fiscal Note Preparation.</u>

- A) In accordance with Joint Rule 24A (d)(2.6) and (d)(2.7), interim committees must comply with the following procedures for requesting legislation in order for the OLLS to draft the proposals:
 - i) Interim committee members must request legislation during a single interim committee meeting set for requesting legislation;
 - ii) Legislation requests must be approved by a majority of the legislative members of the interim committee;
 - iii) Only legislative members of an interim committee may request legislation;
 - iv) In requesting legislation for drafting, chairs and members should be mindful of the limit on the total number of bills the interim committee is authorized to request pursuant to Joint Rule 24A (d)(2.7)(A.5), which specifies that an interim committee may not request the OLLS to draft more than twice the number of bills the interim committee is authorized to recommend to the Legislative Council. Interim committees should not approve bills with very broad subjects that include a number of topics as a way to circumvent the limit on the number of bill requests or to expand the scope of the interim committee's charge.

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³ See table on the third page of this memorandum, which sets forth key dates for requesting and finalizing legislation based on when the committee meetings are scheduled.

Interim committee members must have drafting information available at the meeting at which the members request legislation or must submit drafting information to the OLLS drafter within 3 calendar days after the meeting.



Failure to timely submit drafting information is deemed as a withdrawal of the legislation request, and the OLLS will not draft the requested legislation for consideration by the interim committee.

Interim committee members requesting legislation must be available to OLLS drafters and LCS fiscal analysts during the period when legislation drafts and fiscal notes are prepared.

- B) With regard to the preparation of fiscal notes on proposed legislation:
 - i) When a draft is finalized, the *LCS* is authorized to share the draft with affected state agencies for fiscal note preparation purposes;
 - ii) If the sponsor fails to finalize the draft by the date specified by the interim committee chair, the draft is **deemed finalized and authorized for release for fiscal note preparation purposes**;
- C) Once a draft is finalized for distribution to the interim committee and release for fiscal analysis, neither the requesting interim committee member nor any other member of the interim committee may modify the draft, and interim committee members must present any proposed changes to the finalized draft as an amendment to the finalized draft at the interim committee meeting at which the finalized draft is considered;
- D) If an interim committee authorizes the drafting of a bill and then the bill is subsequently withdrawn, the fact that the bill was withdrawn may be conveyed to the public; and
- E) Once a draft is finalized for distribution to the interim committee and released for fiscal analysis, the bill is deemed to be public and may be posted on the interim committee's website.
- **II)** Procedures for Approving Legislation and Amendments and Designating Sponsors. In accordance with Joint Rules 24 (b)(1)(D) and 24A (d)(2.6), (6), and (8), interim committees must comply with the following procedures for considering and taking final action on legislation requested by the interim committee, including amendments to legislation:
 - A) **Only legislative members** of an interim committee may approve legislation and amendments;
 - B) **Only legislative members** of an interim committee may request amendments to legislation drafts being considered by the interim committee;
 - C) A *majority vote of the legislative members* of the interim committee is required to recommend legislation, unless otherwise specified;⁴

⁴ The statute authorizing the interim committee, an Executive Committee resolution, or the written request for the interim committee as approved by the Legislative Council may specify a different requirement for approval of legislation by the interim committee.

- D) Upon approval of a draft measure, the chair of the interim committee must designate a member or members of the interim committee as the prime sponsor or joint prime sponsors of the legislation and poll the interim committee to determine if any other members wish to cosponsor the legislation.⁵ Unless approved by the interim committee, *no other legislators may be added as sponsors or cosponsors* of the legislation, and no prime sponsors, sponsors, or cosponsors may be removed from the legislation⁶, prior to introduction of the legislation in the next legislative session.
- E) Upon interim committee approval of a draft measure, **the legislation may not be modified or amended** prior to introduction in the next legislative session, except to the extent the interim committee has authorized the OLLS to update the bill summary and incorporate necessary technical changes or conforming amendments identified by the OLLS.

The timeline and procedures outlined in this memorandum are designed to ensure that interim committees have sufficient time to fully debate proposed legislation, review the actual wording of drafts, review and consider the fiscal impact of proposed legislation, and satisfy themselves that the interim committee legislation that is approved accurately reflects the conclusions and recommendations adopted by the interim committee. The deadlines and procedures will also assist the OLLS in providing the highest degree of professional drafting and advice, ensure adequate time for the LCS to prepare informative fiscal notes, and allow LCS to distribute the legislation drafts and fiscal notes to the interim committee members, and the final approved legislation to the Legislative Council, in advance of the interim committees' and Legislative Council's meetings.

Key Dates for 2024 Interim Committees

	Applicable Deadlines
Last date for meeting to request legislation	August 20, 2024
Deadline for submitting drafting information to OLLS	August 23, 2024 (if meeting to request legislation is held on August 20), or by 3 calendar days after meeting when legislation is requested for drafting
Last date to finalize legislation drafts (or date on which drafts are deemed finalized) for distribution to interim committee and release for fiscal analysis	September 10, 2024
Last date for meeting to approve final legislation drafts	October 1, 2024

⁵ With approval of the members of the interim committee, a legislator who is not a member of the interim committee may be designated as the sponsor of the legislation.

⁶ Except that, if prior to introduction a member resigns or otherwise is no longer a member, then the member's name will be removed as a prime sponsor, sponsor, or cosponsor. If prior to introduction a member is elected or appointed to the other chamber and the member was a prime sponsor the member will be removed as a prime sponsor. If prior to introduction a member is elected or appointed to the other chamber and the member was a sponsor or cosponsor the member's sponsorship or cosponsorship will be switched to the other chamber.

Speaker Julie McCluskie, Chair

President Stephen Fenberg, Vice-chair

Majority Leader Monica Duran

Minority Leader Rose Pugliese

Minority Leader Paul Lundeen