



Legislative Council Staff

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Memorandum

July 9, 2018

TO: Members of the Wildfire Matters Review Committee

FROM: Vanessa Reilly, Research Analyst, 303-866-4753
Julia Jackson, Senior Research Analyst, 303-866-4788
Chris Creighton, Fiscal Analyst, 303-866-5834

SUBJECT: Wildfire Matters Review Committee Charge Memo

Summary

This memorandum provides an overview of the 2018 membership of the Wildfire Matters Review Committee, the origin and charge of the committee, bill request deadlines and procedures, and information regarding committee staff and the committee website.

Origin and Charge of the Committee

Pursuant to Section 2-3-1602, C.R.S., the committee is charged with reviewing and proposing legislation or other policy changes related to wildfire prevention, mitigation, and related matters, including public safety and forest health issues. In passing Senate Bill 13-082, which created the Wildfire Matters Review Committee, the General Assembly intended for the committee to be a permanent interim committee through which the General Assembly reviews state policies and resources addressing wildfire prevention and mitigation and the successful implementation and execution of such policies.

During the 2018 legislative session, the General Assembly passed Senate Bill 18-039, which repealed obsolete provisions, provided funding for legislative staffing, and extended the repeal date of the committee to September 1, 2025.

Open records requirements: Pursuant to Section 24-72-202 (6.5)(b), C.R.S., research memoranda and other final products of Legislative Council Staff are considered public records and subject to public inspection unless: a) the research is related to proposed or pending legislation; and b) the legislator requesting the research specifically asks that the research be permanently considered “work product” and not subject to public inspection. If you would like to designate this memorandum to be permanently considered “work product” not subject to public inspection, or if you think additional research is required and this is not a final product, please contact the Legislative Council Librarian at (303) 866-4011 within seven days of the date of the memorandum.

Committee Membership

There are ten members on the Wildfire Matters Review Committee. Members serve two-year terms. The committee is chaired by a Senate member in even-numbered years and by a House member in odd-numbered years.

The ten legislators appointed to the committee for the 2018 interim are:

<i>Senators</i>	<i>Representatives</i>
Senator Don Coram, chair	Representative Tony Exum, vice-chair
Senator John Cooke	Representative KC Becker
Senator Rhonda Fields	Representative Terri Carver
Senator Matt Jones	Representative Barbara McLachlan
Senator Vicki Marble	Representative Dan Thurlow

Meeting Dates

The committee is required to meet at least once each interim and is authorized to meet up to six times during the 2018 interim. As of this writing, the meeting schedule is as follows:

- Tuesday, July 10, 2018, 1:00 PM, Room 357
- Tuesday, August 21, 2018
- Tuesday, October 2, 2018

Committee Recommendations to Legislative Council

Bill limits and requests. The committee may recommend up to five bills to the Legislative Council. Committee members must request bills during a single meeting set for requesting legislation, and bill requests must be approved by a majority of the committee members.¹

Bill request deadlines. The Legislative Council has established deadlines for the 2018 interim for requesting, drafting, and approving bill drafts under consideration by the committee.² The meeting to request bill drafts must be held by August 22, 2018. Committee members must submit drafting information to the Office of Legislative Legal Services (OLLS) bill drafter within three calendar days of the meeting at which bills were requested. There must be at least 42 days in between the meeting at which legislation is requested and the meeting at which it is approved. To allow time for Legislative Council Staff to prepare the fiscal analysis of the proposal,³ there must be 21 days between the date the proposed bill is finalized with OLLS staff and the date of the meeting to consider the proposed bills. The last day to finalize bill drafts with OLLS staff is September 13, 2018, and the committee must

¹Joint Rule 24 (d) (2.7) (A).

²Joint Rule 24A (d) (2.6).

³As required by House Bill 15-1335.

meet and vote on the bill drafts by October 3, 2018. Bill drafts and fiscal notes will be sent to the committee three days prior to the meeting at which the bills will be approved.

Legislative Council review. The Legislative Council is scheduled to meet on October 15, 2018, to approve interim committee draft legislation. Bills approved by the Legislative Council do not count against a member's five-bill limit for the regular legislative session. Bills not approved by the Legislative Council may be introduced during the regular session, but such bills would count against a member's five bill limit.⁴ Interim committee bills must have prime sponsors prior to approval by the Legislative Council.⁵

Committee Staff and Website

Committee staff contacts. Legislative Council Staff is charged with assisting the committee in its activities. If you have any questions or would like any additional information concerning the committee, please send an e-mail to wildfiremattersreview@state.co.us. You may also contact any of the following individual staff members:

- Vanessa Reilly, Research Analyst, Vanessa.Reilly@state.co.us, 303-866-4753
- Julia Jackson, Senior Research Analyst, Julia.Jackson@state.co.us, 303-866-4788

Fiscal note staff contact. Legislative Council Staff provides fiscal notes for committee legislation and other analyses requested by the committee. To discuss the fiscal impact of legislation or to request a fiscal analysis, please contact:

- Chris Creighton, Fiscal Analyst, Chris.Creighton@state.co.us, 303-866-5834

Legal services staff contacts. Additionally, attorneys at the Office of Legislative Legal Services provide legal and bill drafting assistance to the committee. For assistance in these areas, please contact:

- Bob Lackner, Managing Senior Attorney, Bob.Lackner@state.co.us, 303-866-4350
- Thomas Morris, Managing Senior Attorney, Thomas.Morris@state.co.us, 303-866-4218
- Megan Waples, Staff Attorney, Megan.Waples@state.co.us, 303-866-4348

Website. Documents distributed during the meetings and meeting summaries may be found on the committee website at: <http://leg.colorado.gov/committees/wildfire-matters-review-committee/2018-regular-session>

Twitter. Committee updates will be also posted on Twitter at:
<https://twitter.com/COInterimComm>

⁴Joint Rule 24 (b) (1) (D).

⁵Joint Rule 24 (b) (1) (E).