



Legislative Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

Memorandum

September 5, 2024

TO: Members of the Override Mill Levy Match Working Group

FROM: Marc Carey, Chief School Finance Officer, 303-866-4102
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SUBJECT: Overview of the Override Mill Levy Match Working Group

Summary

This memorandum provides an overview of the 2024 membership and charge of the Override Mill Levy Match Working Group (working group). Materials for the working group can be found on the [General Assembly's website](#).

Background

Current law allows school districts, with voter approval, to levy additional property tax mills, over and above total program mills, up to a limit set in state law. These additional mills are known as mill levy overrides (MLOs). Currently, 124 of the 178 school districts in Colorado levy MLOs, generating over \$1.6 billion annually in additional school district funding. [Senate Bill 22-202](#) created the MLO Match Program to address the funding inequities that result from MLOs by providing state matching funds for qualifying school districts and state Charter School Institute (CSI) schools that raise local revenue through the passage of MLOs. A detailed discussion of the program is available [here](#).

Committee Charge

The working group was created pursuant to [House Bill 24-1448](#) to meet during the 2024 interim. It is charged with making recommendations for modifying the MLO Match Program, including:

- ensuring more equitable funding distributions and greater access to funding for eligible school districts and CSI schools;
- determining which districts and CSI schools will receive a distribution from the MLO Match Fund for FY 2024-25; and
- identifying and analyzing inequities between neighboring districts that have differing MLOs, levels of property tax bases, or demonstrated levels of local effort.



Committee Membership

The two legislative members and seven non-legislative members appointed to the MLO Match Working Group are:

Legislative Members	Non-Legislative Members	
Rep. Matthew Martinez (Chair)	Jeremy Burmeister	Platte Valley RE-7 School District
Sen. Minority Leader Paul Lundeen (Vice Chair)	Brandan Comfort	Colorado Springs School District 11
	Aaron Dobson	Salida School District
	Brett Johnson	Aurora Public Schools
	Brett Ridgway	Lewis Palmer School District
	Jana Schleusner	Douglas County School District
	Ashley Stephen	Platte Canyon School District

Meeting Dates

The committee must meet at least three times and may meet up to five times during the 2024 interim, unless additional meetings are approved by the Executive Committee. The committee will meet on September 24, October 22, and November 13, with any additional meetings posted on the committee website as they are available.

Committee Recommendations

The working group must report its recommendations to the Executive Committee of the Legislative Council, House and Senate Education Committees, and the Joint Budget Committee by December 31, 2024. The working group may not request bill drafts.

Committee Staff

Legislative Council Staff is charged with assisting the working group in its activities. Please send any questions to OMLM@coleg.gov, or contact any of the following staff members:

- Marc Carey, Chief School Finance Officer - marc.carey@coleg.gov
- Anna Gerstle, Principal Fiscal Analyst - anna.gerstle@coleg.gov
- Rachel Kurtz-Phelan, Senior Research & Committee Analyst - rachel.kurtz-phelan@coleg.gov
- Thomas Rosa, Data Scientist - thomas.rosa@coleg.gov

The **Office of Legislative Legal Services** provides legal assistance to the working group. For assistance in this area, please contact:

- Jacob Baus, Senior Attorney – jacob.baus@coleg.gov
- Alana Rosen, Staff Attorney – alana.rosen@coleg.gov