

COLORADO SCHOOL FINANCE PROJECT

Support Children - Support The Future

**CSFP Briefing Document:  
Colorado Legislative History of Mill Levy Overrides**

Colorado Legislative History of Mill Levy Overrides 1988 - 2018						
Vote	Legislation	Year	Legislation	Legislative Changes District Mill Levy Override (MLO*)	Legislative Authorization Additional Types of MLO	Legislative changes by decade
		1988 School Finance Act	<a href="#">HB88-1341</a>	MLO shall not exceed 5.0% of total program		Legislation allows MLO
		1990	<a href="#">Colorado Commission on School Finance, Colorado Leg Council</a>	MLO shall not exceed 7.5% of total program		1990 - 1999 Three percentage increases; one new type of MLO
		1992	<a href="#">HB92-1344 Legislative Legal Services Digest of Bills 1992, pg 43.</a>	MLO shall not exceed 10.0% of total program or \$200,000, whichever is greater		
		1994 School Finance Act	<a href="#">1994 School Finance Act HB94-1001</a>	MLO shall not exceed 20.0% of total program or \$200K, whichever is greater.	Mill Levy for excess transportation costs	
		2001	<a href="#">SB01-129</a>		Supplemental Cost of Living	2000 - 2009 Change and addition to percentage increase; two new types of MLO
		2007	<a href="#">SB07-199</a>		MLO excess costs for Full-Day Kindergarten	
		2008	<a href="#">HB08-1388</a>	Section 7 - enables districts to use fixed or variable mills in getting to the maximum percentage allowed as a matter of local control - as opposed to the historical norm of only asking a fixed dollar MLO question.		
	2009 - ongoing: Legislature - Added Budget Stabilization/Negative Factor to the School Finance Act	2009	<a href="#">SB09-256</a>	MLO shall not exceed 25% of total program funding		2010 - 2018 Modification due to new factor; additional percentage to MLO; two new types of MLO
		2010	<a href="#">HB10-1369</a>	Calculation of 25% override limit is prior to inclusion of negative factor**		
		2015	<a href="#">HB15-1321</a>	MLO for small rural districts authorized to 30% of total program		
		2016	<a href="#">HB16-1354</a>		MLO for cash funding technology (new or existing), capital construction, and facility maintenance needs (outside current 25% cap (30% small rural districts)).	

\* Mill Levy Override (MLO) - Voter approved addition to the number of mills levied by a school district (MLOs are outside the school finance act)

\*\* In 2017 the Legislature changed the name of the Negative Factor to the Budget Stabilization Factor (SB17-296)

SB13-213 - Takes effect only if additional revenue comes in on or before November 7, 2017 MLO to 1) fund early childhood education, no cap; 2) technology and maintenance and operation of buildings, no cap; 3) cost of living expenses for district employees, capped at amount equal to 2014-15 district's total program calculated before negative factor, may increase annually beginning in 2016-17 to account for inflation.

[Chart: Colorado School Finance Project](#)