

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
PROPERTY TAX TASK FORCE
STATE OF MONTANA



GREG GIANFORTE
GOVERNOR

PO BOX 200802
HELENA, MONTANA 59620-0802

RYAN OSMUNDSON, CHAIR

Subcommittee Recommendation

Subcommittee Name: Local Government

Recommendation: Require new voter approved levies to receive a 60% affirmative vote to be passed.

Rationale: Voter approved levies constitute a significant portion of property tax increases. Increasing consensus and voter education could ensure that property taxes align with community values and stay within the bounds of the community's ability to pay for it.

Barriers Addressed: Future growth in residential property taxes is directly tied to any new voter approved mill levies. This will reduce the future growth of mill levies.

Key Strategies: The state legislature should consider requiring more than a simple majority for passage of new budget authority.

Dissenting Opinions (if applicable): Mill levy elections are already challenging to pass and further increasing the barriers to passage doesn't give voters sufficient control of their local government budget choices.

Supporting Graphics, Weblinks, or other documentation:

(Approved unanimously, without objection, by the Local Government Subcommittee on 7/1/2024)