

Charter Commission recommendations and their impact on Overrides and Debt Exclusions

There was some misinformation being circulated early in the process that the Charter Commission was elected to take away residents' ability to vote on overrides. This is false. Under Massachusetts General Law Chapter 59, § 21C, any Proposition 2½ question— whether it be an override, a debt exclusion or an underride— must always be presented on a ballot for approval by all voters.

Neither the Charter Commission nor the Charter can change this. State law takes precedence over any local Charter and prevails within any form of town government.