First Regular Session Seventy-fifth General Assembly STATE OF COLORADO

REVISED

This Version Includes All Amendments Adopted on Second Reading in the Second House

LLS NO. 25-0348.01 Megan McCall x4215

HOUSE BILL 25-1030

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A BILL FOR AN ACT

101	CONCERNING THE REQUIREMENT THAT CERTAIN BUILDING CODES
102	HAVE ACCESSIBILITY STANDARDS THAT ARE AT LEAST AS
103	STRINGENT AS INTERNATIONAL BUILDING CODES.

Bill Summary

(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at http://leg.colorado.gov.)

Beginning January 1, 2026, the bill requires a local government that adopts or substantially amends a building code to ensure that the building code meets or exceeds the accessibility standards in international building codes.

The bill also requires the division of fire prevention and control

SENATE Amended 2nd Reading February 25, 2025

HOUSE 3rd Reading Unamended February 5, 2025

HOUSE Amended 2nd Reading February 4, 2025

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. <u>Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.</u>

Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material to be added to existing law.

Dashes through the words or numbers indicate deletions from existing law.

within the department of public safety to ensure that, when certain building codes pertaining to public school and heath facilities are substantially amended, the codes meet or exceed accessibility standards in international building codes.

The bill requires the state housing board to ensure that, when the uniform construction and maintenance standards for hotels, motels, and multiple dwellings in jurisdictions with no local building code are substantially updated, the standards meet or exceed the accessibility standards in international building codes. The bill also requires the state housing board to ensure that, when the recommendations for uniform housing standards and building codes to the general assembly and local governments are substantially updated, the codes meet or exceed the accessibility standards in international building codes.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:

SECTION 1. Legislative declaration. (1) The general assembly finds and declares that:

- (a) Accessibility in building design is a fundamental right that fosters inclusivity and equal opportunity for all individuals, particularly those with disabilities. In alignment with article 9 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, which emphasizes the need for persons with disabilities to live independently and participate fully in all aspects of life, Colorado recognizes the importance of creating an accessible built environment.
- (b) It is crucial that Colorado's building codes incorporate "Americans with Disabilities Act" and "Architectural Barriers Act" standards, which require that buildings and facilities be accessible to persons with disabilities;
- (c) Aligning local building codes with the internationally recognized standards set forth by the International Building Code and existing federal laws is crucial to ensure that all new constructions, renovations, and alterations adhere to minimum accessibility

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requirements;

- (d) This House Bill 25-1030 requires local governments to adopt or amend local building codes to meet or exceed these necessary international building code accessibility <u>standards</u>;
- (e) By identifying and eliminating obstacles to accessibility, the general assembly can create a built environment that is welcoming and accessible to everyone; and
- (f) By prioritizing accessibility in Colorado building codes, state and local governments can promote the participation of persons with disabilities in all aspects of community life, thereby enhancing the quality of life for all Colorado residents.
- (2) Therefore, the general assembly declares that establishing uniform accessibility standards in building codes is of mixed local and statewide concern to ensure that all individuals may access the physical environment, transportation, information, and communications on an equal basis.
- **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **amend** 30-28-204 as follows:

30-28-204. Amendment of building code. (1) The board of county commissioners from time to time by resolution may alter and amend any county building code after public hearing, notice of which hearing shall be given by at least one publication in a newspaper of general circulation in the county at least fourteen days prior to said hearing. In no case shall the area covered by the building code be extended or changed unless the same has been proposed by or is first submitted for the approval, disapproval, or suggestions of the county planning commission. Unless the county planning commission acts within

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thirty days, approval shall be assumed. The opinion of the county planning commission shall be advisory only and not binding upon the board of county commissioners.

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4 (2) When a board of county commissioners or a regional 5 BUILDING DEPARTMENT OPERATING THROUGH AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL 6 AGREEMENT WITH A BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS ADOPTS OR 7 SUBSTANTIALLY AMENDS ANY COUNTY BUILDING CODE, OR UPDATES AN 8 ALREADY ADOPTED BUILDING CODE WITH A SUCCEEDING VERSION OF THE 9 INTERNATIONAL BUILDING CODE, THE BOARD OR REGIONAL BUILDING 10 DEPARTMENT SHALL ENSURE THAT THE BUILDING CODE MEETS OR 11 EXCEEDS THE ACCESSIBILITY STANDARDS ADOPTED IN ONE OF THE TWO 12 MOST RECENT VERSIONS OF THE INTERNATIONAL BUILDING CODE, AS 13 ADOPTED BY THE INTERNATIONAL CODE COUNCIL OR A SUCCESSOR 14 ORGANIZATION. ADOPTION OF THE ENERGY-EFFICIENT BUILDING CODES IN 15 ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 30-28-211 DOES NOT CONSTITUTE A 16 SUBSTANTIAL AMENDMENT OR UPDATE TO THE BUILDING CODES FOR 17 PURPOSES OF THIS SUBSECTION (2). THE ACCESSIBILITY STANDARDS 18 ADOPTED BY A BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OR REGIONAL 19 BUILDING DEPARTMENT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS SUBSECTION (2) 20 CANNOT PROVIDE LESS PROTECTION THAN WHAT IS REQUIRED BY THE 21 FEDERAL "AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT OF 1990", 42 U.S.C. SEC. 22 12101 ET SEQ.

(3) The <u>requirements for ensuring accessibility standards</u> In accordance with subsection (2) of this section do not apply to one- and two-family dwellings and townhomes that comply with the International Residential Code, as adopted by the International Code Council or a successor organization, or

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1	THAT COMPLY WITH A LOCAL BUILDING CODE WHOSE ACCESSIBILITY
2	STANDARDS ARE EQUIVALENT TO THE ACCESSIBILITY STANDARDS IN THE
3	INTERNATIONAL RESIDENTIAL CODE.
4	SECTION 3. In Colorado Revised Statutes, add 31-15-604 as
5	follows:
6	31-15-604. Building codes - minimum accessibility standards
7	required - international building codes. When a governing body of
8	A MUNICIPALITY OR A REGIONAL BUILDING DEPARTMENT OPERATING
9	THROUGH AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT WITH A GOVERNING
10	BODY OF A MUNICIPALITY ADOPTS OR SUBSTANTIALLY AMENDS ANY
11	MUNICIPAL BUILDING CODE, OR UPDATES AN ALREADY ADOPTED BUILDING
12	CODE WITH A SUCCEEDING VERSION OF THE INTERNATIONAL BUILDING
13	CODE, THE GOVERNING BODY OR REGIONAL BUILDING DEPARTMENT
14	SHALL ENSURE THAT THE BUILDING CODE MEETS OR EXCEEDS THE
15	ACCESSIBILITY STANDARDS ADOPTED IN ONE OF THE TWO MOST RECENT
16	VERSIONS OF THE INTERNATIONAL BUILDING CODE, AS ADOPTED BY THE
17	INTERNATIONAL CODE COUNCIL OR A SUCCESSOR ORGANIZATION.
18	ADOPTION OF THE ENERGY-EFFICIENT BUILDING CODES IN ACCORDANCE
19	WITH SECTION $31-15-602$ DOES NOT CONSTITUTE A SUBSTANTIAL
20	AMENDMENT OR UPDATE TO THE BUILDING CODES FOR PURPOSES OF THIS
21	SECTION. THE REQUIREMENTS FOR ENSURING ACCESSIBILITY STANDARDS
22	IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS SECTION DO NOT APPLY TO ONE- AND
23	TWO-FAMILY DWELLINGS AND TOWNHOMES THAT COMPLY WITH THE
24	INTERNATIONAL RESIDENTIAL CODE, AS ADOPTED BY THE INTERNATIONAL
25	CODE COUNCIL OR A SUCCESSOR ORGANIZATION, OR THAT COMPLY WITH
26	A LOCAL BUILDING CODE WHOSE ACCESSIBILITY STANDARDS ARE
27	EQUIVALENT TO THE ACCESSIBILITY STANDARDS IN THE INTERNATIONAL

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1	RESIDENTIAL CODE. THE ACCESSIBILITY STANDARDS ADOPTED BY A
2	GOVERNING BODY OF A MUNICIPALITY OR A REGIONAL BUILDING
3	<u>DEPARTMENT</u> CANNOT PROVIDE LESS PROTECTION THAN WHAT IS
4	REQUIRED BY THE FEDERAL "AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT OF
5	1990", 42 U.S.C. SEC. 12101 ET SEQ.
6	SECTION 4. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-33.5-1203,
7	amend (1)(p) and (1)(p.5) as follows:
8	24-33.5-1203. Duties of division. (1) The division shall perform
9	the following duties:
10	(p) Conduct construction plan reviews and inspect public school
11	and local district college buildings and structures and enforce the codes
12	adopted in accordance with sections 22-32-124 (2), and 23-71-122 (1)(v),
13	C.R.S., and sections 24-33.5-1213, AND 24-33.5-1213.3. THE DIVISION
14	SHALL ENSURE THAT WHEN THE CODES ADOPTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH
15	SECTIONS 22-32-124 (2), 23-71-122 (1)(V), 24-33.5-1213, AND
16	24-33.5-1213.3 ARE SUBSTANTIALLY AMENDED, THE CODES MEET OR
17	EXCEED THE ACCESSIBILITY STANDARDS ADOPTED BY ONE OF THE TWO
18	MOST RECENT VERSIONS OF THE INTERNATIONAL BUILDING CODE, AS
19	ADOPTED BY THE INTERNATIONAL CODE COUNCIL OR A SUCCESSOR
20	ORGANIZATION.
21	(p.5) When there is no local building department or fire
22	department, or for facilities certified or potentially eligible for
23	certification by the federal centers for medicare and medicaid services,
24	conduct construction plan reviews and inspections of health facility
25	buildings and structures, enforce the codes in accordance with sections
26	24-33.5-1212.5 and 24-33.5-1213, and issue certificates of compliance
27	for such buildings and structures. THE DIVISION SHALL ENSURE THAT

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2	24-33.5-1212.5 AND 24-33.5-1213 ARE SUBSTANTIALLY <u>AMENDED</u> , THE
3	CODES MEET OR EXCEED THE ACCESSIBILITY STANDARDS ADOPTED BY ONE
4	OF THE TWO MOST RECENT VERSIONS OF THE INTERNATIONAL BUILDING
5	CODE, AS ADOPTED BY THE INTERNATIONAL CODE COUNCIL OR A
6	SUCCESSOR ORGANIZATION.
7	SECTION 5. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-32-707, add (1.5)
8	as follows:
9	24-32-707. Powers of board. (1.5) The Board shall ensure
10	THAT WHEN THE STANDARDS AND CODES PRESCRIBED IN SUBSECTIONS
11	(1)(b) AND (1)(c) OF THIS SECTION ARE SUBSTANTIALLY <u>AMENDED</u> , THE
12	STANDARDS AND CODES MEET OR EXCEED THE ACCESSIBILITY
13	REQUIREMENTS IN ONE OF THE TWO MOST RECENT VERSIONS OF THE
14	INTERNATIONAL BUILDING CODE, AS ADOPTED BY THE INTERNATIONAL
15	CODE COUNCIL OR A SUCCESSOR ORGANIZATION.
16	SECTION 6. Act subject to petition - effective date. This act
17	takes effect January 1, 2026; except that, if a referendum petition is filed
18	pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V of the state constitution against this
19	act or an item, section, or part of this act within the ninety-day period
20	after final adjournment of the general assembly, then the act, item,
21	section, or part will not take effect unless approved by the people at the
22	general election to be held in November 2026 and, in such case, will take
23	effect on the date of the official declaration of the vote thereon by the
24	governor.

WHEN THE CODES ADOPTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTIONS

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