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M. Dennis Knight  
2024-2025 ASHRAE President

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March 14, 2025

The Honorable William Lindstedt  
Chair  
Committee on Finance  
Colorado House of Representatives  
200 E. Colfax Ave.  
Denver, CO 80203

Re: HB 25-1245, "Concerning HVAC Infrastructure Improvement Projects in Schools"

Dear Chair Lindstedt:

I am writing on behalf of ASHRAE, the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating, and Air Conditioning Engineers, to provide comments on House Bill 25-1245, regarding HVAC infrastructure improvement projects in schools, which is currently assigned to the Finance Committee.

ASHRAE is a not-for-profit technical and professional society of more than 55,000 members, including more than 1,100 in Colorado. As a technical society that exists to serve humanity by advancing the arts and sciences of heating, ventilation, air conditioning, refrigeration and their allied fields, **we support the goals of this legislation, which is intended to provide healthy, safe and energy efficient school facilities in Colorado.**

We also appreciate that the most recent amendments to the legislation on March 6 from the House Business and Labor Committee include additional references to ASHRAE's consensus-based standards, which will bolster the legislation's effectiveness in providing good indoor air quality:

- Standard 52.2-2017, *Method of Testing General Ventilation Air-Cleaning Devices for Removal Efficiency by Particle Size*. This standard is a valuable tool for measuring the performance of certain air cleaning devices.
- Standard 62.1-2022, *Ventilation and Acceptable Indoor Air Quality*: Standard 62.1 specifies minimum ventilation rates and other measures intended to provide indoor air quality that is acceptable to human occupants and minimizes adverse health effects due to poor IAQ. It defines the requirements for ventilation and air-cleaning system design, installation, commissioning, and operations and maintenance.
- Standard 241 -2023, *Control of Infectious Aerosols*: This standard for buildings focuses on airborne infection risk mitigation. It establishes minimum requirements for building owners, operators and

professionals to improve IAQ by reducing the risk of airborne disease transmission by infectious aerosols. Standard 241 is meant to be applied in periods of elevated risk, for example the risk of transmission of pathogens like the SARS-COV-2 virus, which causes COVID-19. Under these conditions, buildings would operate in “Infection Risk Management Mode,” and building operators would have the flexibility to choose between different equivalent clean air options based on what they determine is appropriate for that type of space, along with their specific energy use goals or cost restrictions. This flexibility makes Standard 241 a powerful tool for mitigating transmission risk that can be adapted for specific circumstances.

- Standard 180-2018, *Standard Practice for Inspection and Maintenance of Commercial Building HVAC Systems*: Finally, the use of Standard 180 will help ensure that the improvements made by this program will continue to be well operated and maintained. Standard 180 gives details on how to implement inspection and maintenance practices, a list of the necessary tasks, and includes informative appendices with examples of situations in which a maintenance plan should be reviewed.

Thank you for your consideration of ASHRAE’s comments regarding House Bill 25-1245. ASHRAE would be pleased to serve as a technical resource and to answer any questions you might have. We are delighted that Colorado is moving forward to improve its school facilities for students, teachers, and staff. ASHRAE looks forward to being a technical resource as you consider this as well as other legislation concerning building systems and their impact on indoor air quality. If you need additional information or would like to be connected to a technical expert, please contact [GovAffairs@ashrae.org](mailto:GovAffairs@ashrae.org).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "M. Dennis Knight". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

M. Dennis Knight  
2024-2025 ASHRAE President

**House Finance**

**03/17/2025 01:30 PM**

**HB25-1245 HVAC Improvement Projects in Schools**

**Typed Text of Testimony Submitted**

<b>Name, Position, Representing</b>	<b>Typed Text of Testimony</b>
Evie Hudak For Colorado PTA	<p>PTA supports HB 1245. PTA is dedicated to children’s health, well-being, and educational success and works at the local, state, and national levels to enhance the health of our nation's children and families. We know that a healthy child is a teachable child, and that unhealthy conditions may inhibit a student’s ability to learn.</p> <p>The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has stated that concentrations of air contaminants are often found to be 2-5 times higher indoors than outdoors due to the tighter buildings, reduction in outdoor air brought into schools for ventilation, reduced maintenance budgets, and the proliferation of indoor sources of contaminants. The combined indoor pollution from synthetic building materials and furnishings, cleaning agents, printing and copying devices, science labs, arts and crafts materials, and combustion and humidification appliances can reduce the health and comfort of building occupants, as well as increase absenteeism. Children may be especially susceptible to air pollution because the same concentration of pollutants will result in a higher body burden in children than adults because children breathe a greater volume of air relative to their body weight.</p> <p>PTA believes we must ensure that school heating, ventilation, and air conditioning operation and maintenance plans comply with the highest current standards.</p>