

Good morning, my name is Amelia Myers and I am the climate and clean energy advocate at Conservation Colorado, the state's largest member-based conservation organization with over 50,000 members. I am here today in support of House bill 1260, to update building energy codes.

Heating and cooling our buildings is one of the top greenhouse gas emitting activities in Colorado, and ensuring that we are up-to-date on building efficiency across the state will help reduce our greenhouse gases. This bill requires local jurisdictions to adopt one of the 3 most recent versions of the international energy conservation code at a minimum, upon updating any other building code, and encourages local jurisdictions to update the Colorado energy office on any changes to the jurisdictions' building and energy codes. There is no requirement to adopt or create a new code if a local jurisdiction does not currently have a building energy code.

HB 1260 updates Colorado's current energy efficiency standards for all communities once they are ready to update the code in their community, and allows the local jurisdiction to choose one of the three most recent updates in order to comply. This flexibility is a good policy for the varied needs across the state.

As we continue to lower our carbon footprint to meet climate goals, energy efficiency is a key strategy to meet multiple policy objectives. It saves money, improves health, lowers carbon emissions and creates local jobs that cannot be outsourced. In Colorado the energy efficiency sector employs more than 42,000 people and increasing building code standards will ensure those jobs for years to come.

Because this bill is good for our climate, our economy and our health, I urge you to vote yes. Thank you for your time.