



CLINICA
family health

Simon Smith Testimony In Favor Of HB24-1172 County Revitalization Authorities

Good morning, Mr. Chair and Members of the Senate Local Government and Planning Committee.

My name is Simon Smith, and I serve as President and CEO of Clinica Family Health, a nonprofit community health center with multiple locations serving Adams, Gilpin, Boulder, and Broomfield Counties.

I am here to testify in support of House Bill 1172. I know firsthand the challenges of seeking investments for revitalization and infrastructure development in unincorporated areas. Our largest and busiest clinic sits at 72nd Avenue and Pecos St, just south of U.S. Highway 36. If you Google it, the clinic appears to be part of Denver, but it is in fact located in unincorporated Adams County.

We serve over 15,000 unique patients at this location each year, offering medical, dental, pharmacy and behavioral health services focused on low-income patients, many of whom are uninsured. We are the safety net provider to thousands of Coloradans in this densely populated, urban community who do not have the benefit of a local municipality. Clinica is located here precisely because of the high needs of these individuals. Our clinic needs capital and infrastructure investments, and we are implementing a multi-phase renovation effort to modernize the building. We are working hard to make this possible through a variety of funding sources and are partnering with Adams County officials as we seek to enhance critical services and infrastructure.

This bill would offer Adams County and county governments across the state more tools to provide residents with the clean water, functional sewers, parks, safety, health care and other services that they deserve. It will also provide counties another means of partnering with organizations like Clinica that provide essential services to residents. Southwest Adams County has some of the highest poverty rates in the state. HB 1172 will support more equitable investments and will enhance public/private sector collaborations that will improve the quality of life for Coloradans in unincorporated areas.

Thank you, and please consider supporting HB 1172.

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