

**Senate Local Government & Housing**

**02/20/2025 01:30 PM**

**HB25-1030 Accessibility Standards in Building Codes**

**Typed Text of Testimony Submitted**

<b>Name, Position, Representing</b>	<b>Typed Text of Testimony</b>
<p>Heather Stauffer Against Colorado Municipal League</p>	<p>Thank you, members of the Senate Local Government Committee, for your consideration today. I am representing the Colorado Municipal League who represents 271 of 273 municipalities in the state of Colorado. We are opposed to HB25-1030. While we appreciate the intent of this bill, the reality is that municipalities do adopt these codes including chapter 11 of the IBC. I have not been able to find a municipality who has not adopted these codes. As such we do not believe the bill is necessary to achieve its goal.</p> <p>It is important for municipalities to retain flexibility to amend these codes to adjust to local conditions and concerns.</p> <p>Amendments added in the House make changes to the bill which may have unintended consequences for municipalities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- The linkage to ADA, rather than IBC codes may expose local governments to challenges and perhaps liability.</li><li>-The standard in the bill is to meet or exceed ICC accessibility standards, but then you also can't provide less protection than the ADA. This seems to be a confusing expectation.</li><li>-What is required by the ADA may be a moving target, depending on federal agency and judicial interpretations. This seems to be less of a fixed point for compliance than the ICC standards.</li><li>-The standard also seems to place local governments in the role of enforcing the ADA, when compliance is the responsibility of a building owner or enforcement is through the federal government and private lawsuits.</li></ul> <p>thank you again for your consideration of these comments.</p>
<p>Jeany Rush</p>	<p>TO: Transportation, Housing &amp; Local Governments</p>

<p>Against themselves</p>	<p>RE: HB25-1030 Accessibility Standards in Building Codes</p> <p>Sponsors: Joseph, Cutter, Winter</p> <p>FROM: Jeany Rush, Colorado Springs, Constituent</p> <p>VOTE: NO</p> <p>REPOSTING FOLKS STOP THIS</p> <p>Since this bill requires a local governments to insure building code "meets or exceeds the accessibility standards in international building codes", I have to ask why are we not only pushing for standards greater than our national building codes, but why at this pivotal time in our economy, in our state of actual financial distress.</p> <p>Further, this bill impacts the "division of fire prevention and control within the department of public safety" as it relates to public school and heath facilities creating more and more standard changes, and updates based on an international standard we are not mandated to utilize.</p> <p>"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" Why are we placing these standards, costs, updates, or outright changes to our current codes on everything from commercial to residential construction in a time when homeowners, investors are literally losing their properties, or having to sell because they can no longer afford to exist in our state and its insane taxes, and procedures.</p> <p>"AND NO TAKING OUR TABOR IS NOT THE ANSWER" THIS IS JUST ALL UNACCEPTABLE. IT IS NOT THE ROLE OF GOVERNMENT TO OVER REACH INTO COMMERCE THE WAY THIS LEGISLATURE DOES.</p>
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February 19, 2025

**RE: HB25-1030 Accessibility Standards in Building Codes—SUPPORT**

Dear Members of the Local Government & Housing Committee:

My name is Kathy Smith, and I am a Volunteer Lobbyist with the League of Women Voters of Colorado's Legislative Action Committee. **I am writing in support of HB25-1030 on behalf of the League of Women Voters of Colorado.**

The League of Women Voters of Colorado (LWVCO) has been a nonpartisan organization for 105 years, encourages informed and active participation in government, and influences public policy through education and advocacy. Our membership spans the state of Colorado with 18 local leagues operating in several regions around our state. The LWVCO supports policies to provide equal opportunity for housing for all persons regardless of their race, color, gender, religion, national origin, age, sexual orientation, or disability and supports responsible land use planning by all levels of government.

HB25-1030 requires local governments to adopt or amend their municipal building codes to meet or exceed the accessibility standards outlined in one of the two most recent versions of the International Building Code whenever they adopt or substantially amend their local codes. The bill directs for similar adoption or amendments for public schools and health facilities.

While current law covers some basic residential accessibility requirements, it does not extend to commercial buildings and lacks the comprehensive scope needed to address accessibility in residential settings. Additionally, gaps in enforcement and review processes for multi-family residential buildings leave accessibility requirements unclear. Establishing uniform accessibility standards in building codes is of mixed local and statewide concern to ensure equal access to the built environment for all individuals. By adopting accessibility standards from the International Building Code, this bill aims to improve the accessibility of Colorado's public spaces and multi-family housing stock and reduce renovation costs over time.

**We urge the committee members to vote YES on HB25-1030** to help address our state's growing housing shortage and affordability crisis. Thank you for your consideration of this important bill.

Respectfully,  
Kathy Smith, Volunteer Lobbyist, Housing  
League of Women Voters of Colorado  
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