

Good afternoon members of the Committee,

My name is Lorena Gonzalez, the climate advocate at Conservation Colorado. On behalf of our over 16,000 members, I'd like to express our support of House Bill 22-1362 "Building Greenhouse Gas Emissions" as amended.

I want to express my gratitude to the Energy Office and bill sponsors for having gone through a comprehensive stakeholder process to bring all the relevant parties to the table to build a workable policy that takes equity into account and is going to save people money and reduce climate emissions.

Improving our buildings will bring cleaner air, healthier homes and offices, good jobs, and empowered workers. Expanding affordable clean energy and energy efficiency can reduce monthly energy bills for pollution-burdened communities and offer improved indoor air quality by reducing harmful pollutants—all while helping states meet their climate goals.

We are thrilled to see amendments included aimed at promoting equity in the building decarbonization grant programs. These amendments help maximize the deployment of this program and give communities most impacted by systemic injustice and environmental racism the opportunity to benefit from an equitable share of resources.

Specifically, the amendments set aside at least 30% of funding to disproportionately impacted, low-income, and just transition communities and ensure that the CEO provides grant assistance for these same entities who may not have the resources or expertise to apply for grants. We're hoping to continue to see the Colorado Energy Office prioritize these important carve outs which signal progress in a positive direction.

We are also glad to see the bill include technical assistance in Spanish which is an important investment and shows a good faith effort on behalf of the CEO and bill sponsors to not only listen to stakeholder feedback but reflect it in the policy. We know that meeting strict code requirements and obtaining certain licenses can exclude some builders or contractors of color, especially when English isn't their first language. Many trades (insulation, drywall, roofing, etc.) are dominated by a monolingual Spanish-speaking workforce who may be left behind if training isn't available in their language. Fortunately, this bill commits to invest in this workforce and provide technical assistance in Spanish, ensuring this segment of the workforce is brought along in the move to make our buildings sector more efficient, healthy, and climate-resilient.

To close, I urge a "yes" vote on HB-1362 and all the latest amendments, especially those aimed to promote equity in the building decarbonization grant program.

Thank you for all you do.

Lorena Gonzalez
Climate Advocate
Conservation Colorado



May 2, 2022

Senate State, Veterans, & Military Affairs Committee
Colorado General Assembly
200 E. Colfax Avenue
Denver, CO 80203

Re: HB22-1362 Building greenhouse gas emissions

Dear Members of the Senate State, Veterans, & Military Affairs Committee:

My name is Ann Sutton, living in Westminster CO. This testimony represents the position of the League of Women Voters of Colorado (LWVCO). LWVCO supports this bill that requires adoption of building codes in Colorado for energy conservation, for electric- and solar-ready construction, and voluntary adoption for low energy use and reducing carbon emissions.

The League believes in an interrelated approach to combating climate change including air pollution controls, promoting renewable resources, and protecting public health. This bill will--

- Reduce GHG emissions from the built environment by supporting reduction in the use of fossil methane for space and water heating and for cooking.
- Reduce indoor air pollution by promoting transition away from burning fossil methane.
- Promote renewable energy by supporting rooftop solar panel installations with solar-ready electrical installations.
- Encourage electric vehicle adoption to reduce air pollution by facilitating electric vehicle charging in buildings or closely near-by.

LWVCO is committed to equity in access to technology that advances clean air and high-efficiency utilities and appliance for all communities in the state. The grant programs described will assure that low-income, disproportionately impacted, and Just-Transition communities can participate in the economies-of-scale for installation of high-efficiency electrification equipment.

We are pleased to express our strong support for this bill and thank the committee for their careful review and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ann Sutton". The signature is written in a cursive style and is placed over a light blue rectangular background.

Ann Sutton Volunteer Lobbyist
League of Women Voters of Colorado
1410 Grant Street, Suite B-204
Denver, CO 80203

Senate State, Veterans, & Military Affairs
 05/05/2022 Upon Adjournment
 HB22-1362 Building Greenhouse Gas Emissions
 Typed Text of Testimony Submitted

Name, Position, Representing	Typed Text of Testimony
<p>Nancy Kellogg For Self</p>	<p>Ny name is Nancy Kellogg, I am a retired Building Scientist and HERS (Home Energy Rating System) Rater. I originally got into this business because I married a man with a cold house (and a warm heart). Unfortunately, my new replacement windows in the late 1990's did not make my home any more comfortable or affordable. I succeeded in my efforts to improve my home after investing in insulation and air sealing improvements, making my home one of the few who has made even modest improvements in air sealing.</p> <p>Building energy efficient structures at the time of construction is key for a lifetime of benefits.</p> <p>I will never forget the first time I heard a new homeowner ask, "Doesn't Colorado have building codes?" after their beautiful mountain home was virtually destroyed the 1st weekend they owned the home. They're in floor heat, water pipes burst due to insufficient insulation and little to no air sealing, ruining all of the flooring, windows and drywall too. I had to tell the homeowner that actually the community he had his home built in DID NOT have building codes for energy efficiency. He was shocked!</p> <p>I feel true luxury is the knowledge and security of a comfortable building during a power outage. With building codes we are almost there.</p> <p>Thank you, Nancy Kellogg</p>
<p>Tony Gagliardi Against National Federation of Independent Business</p>	<p>KEY VOTE – OPPOSED Hb 22-1362, concerning the reduction of building greenhouse gases</p> <p>NFIB is an incorporated nonprofit association with nearly 300,000 members across America. NFIB protects and advances the ability of individuals to own, operate, and grow their businesses and ensures that the Congress of the United States and all 50 states hear the voice of small business as they formulate public policy.</p> <p>It is the belief of NFIB members that Hb 22-1362 will lead to the prohibition of certain types of energy such as natural gas. House bill 22-1362 will also eliminate choice in energy in new construction, increase the cost of doing business, increase energy prices and create a patchwork of different building codes across Colorado and the United States.</p>

	<p>House bill 22-1362 forces Colorado cities, counties, and the Division of Fire prevention to adopt the 2021 international energy conservation code and model electric and solar ready code language. These codes will add exponential cost increase in construction.</p> <p>The members of NFIB Colorado voted 93 percent against the limiting of choices of energy in buildings and construction.</p> <p>House bill 22-1362 creates a one size fits all plan for future building. For the reasons state NFIB Colorado opposes Hb 22-1362.</p> <p>Thank you,</p> <p>A.F. Tony Gagliardi, State Director 303-831-6099</p>
Paul Kriescher For Self	<p>Honored Members of the Senate State, Veterans, & Military Affairs Committee,</p> <p>I have been working with homeowners, building owners builders and developers across Colorado since 1997 on improving comfort and energy-efficiency. In the last 2 years I've been honored to be working with Rocky Mtn PBS to deliver a documentary series called Heart of a Building (www.HeartofaBuilding.com) on the "why" stories behind high performance homes and buildings. It from this basis of experience that I share the following:</p> <p>Home buyers, as well as buyers of larger buildings, frequently are not aware of the “behind the wall” issues -even after having a home or building inspection. Issues such as air-leakage, gaps or missing insulation, missing encapsulation of insulation that can lead to mold growth inside wall cavities, (especially in those walls in bathrooms where moisture levels are higher) and improper sizing and airflow of HVAC equipment leads to comfort problems and higher utility bills. The “buyer-beware” motto is a tough one when it comes to understanding how your new home or building “works as a system”.</p> <p>Advancing building codes greatly increases the likelihood that the consumer will be protected.</p> <p>This includes those who are the first buyer AND, since homes and buildings frequently last more than a human lifetime –unlike most everything else we buy- advancing the energy codes also protects the next buyer, the buyer after that and the buyer after that, essentially for generations to come.</p> <p>With this, I request that you vote in favor HB22-1362 to move it the full Senate for a vote because this legislation will help protect building and home owners for decades to come.</p>

May 4, 2022

To: Members of the Senate State, Veterans, and Military Affairs Committee

RE: House Bill 22-1362 (Bernett and A. Valdez): Building Greenhouse Gas Emissions – AEE Support

On behalf of Advanced Energy Economy (AEE), we express our **support** for House Bill 22-1362, which will better prepare newly constructed homes and commercial buildings across the state to be energy-efficient, high-performing, cost-effective, and resilient to extreme weather conditions into the future. We also support the adoption of the strike below amendment L.054 in your committee, which would provide additional guard rails and transparency by establishing a collaborative stakeholder process that gives local governments a meaningful decision-making share in the development of new proposed building codes.

AEE is a national association of businesses that are making the energy we use secure, clean, and affordable. We are comprised of over 100 companies both large and small across the technology spectrum, including energy efficiency, solar, wind, storage, fuel cells, biofuels, electric vehicles, demand response, advanced metering, and enabling software. Our members also include companies that have made a commitment to power their operations with clean energy and are working with us to break down the barriers that inhibit them from reaching their sustainability goals. Our vision is 100% clean electricity and electrified transportation in the U.S., and we support a broad range of technologies, products, and services that will get us to that goal.

Keeping building codes up-to-date is a straightforward yet impactful tool for maintaining safe, sustainable, healthy and affordable buildings. Standardized building code upgrades provide practical consistency for homebuilders, helping to control costs, minimize planning uncertainty, and streamline construction. Updated building codes can also better “democratize” consumers’ access to monthly savings on their utility bill by baking in a higher baseline of energy efficiency from the get-go. HB 1362 recognizes that these savings can go farther when modern building codes are applied widely and consistently, and complemented with on-site clean energy installations and optimally-timed electric vehicle charging. Incorporating electric- and solar-ready provisions into the next generation of building codes will future-proof new homes and commercial buildings, providing families, businesses, and building managers with reassurance they are better equipped to withstand natural disasters and potential power interruptions without breaking the bank for residents and homebuilders.

As an industry association driven by innovation and the ability to adapt nimbly to evolving conditions and technological advancements, AEE appreciates the inherent clarity and flexibility of this legislation. HB 1362 offers different compliance pathways for local governments to satisfy the bill’s targets, without sacrificing practical consistency and important gains in greenhouse gas emissions reductions from our built environment. It also does

not preclude cities and counties from adopting stretch codes to go above and beyond these minimum requirements if they so choose.

Colorado has already established an impressive track record of embracing innovation and better performance across its buildings sector, through past legislation and current impending regulations. It is no coincidence that Colorado was invited to join 32 other state and local governments in the National Building Performance Standards Coalition announced earlier this year. By adopting the minimum guidelines established in House Bill 1362, Colorado would also join more than 18 states across the country that have either already adopted, or are in the process of adopting, the 2021 IECC. It is in the best interest of our state leadership, local communities, and pollution reduction goals to pursue sensible, phased improvements to the quality, cost-effectiveness, and resilience of our built environment.

AEE also commends HB 1362 for committing dedicated technical assistance, grant funding, and other incentives to ease the burden of compliance and implementation for local governments, builders, trades, and entities serving low-income, disproportionately impacted, or just transition communities. This will ensure affordable energy upgrades are able to scale in neighborhoods, local infrastructure, and communities where direct indoor air quality improvements and bill savings will create the most public benefit. We are especially excited by the creation of the Building Electrification for Public Buildings Grant Program, which will extend accessible low-cost finance to public schools and other locally-significant buildings to perform cost-cutting energy retrofits.

Finally, HB 1362 will enable Colorado to multiply the local impact of state programs and investment by harnessing competitive grant funding from the federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) to provide technical assistance and training for advanced building codes, as well as energy efficiency and renewable energy improvements at public school facilities.

For all these reasons, AEE **supports** HB 22-1362, with strike below amendment L.054, and respectfully requests your "AYE" vote when the bill is before you.

Sincerely,



Emilie Olson

Principal

Advanced Energy Economy (AEE)

cc: Representative Tracey Bernett

Representative Alex Valdez

Mark Silberg, Special Advisor – Climate and Energy to Governor Jared Polis





To:
State, Veterans & Military Affairs Committee
State of Colorado

Date: 05.05.2022

Subject: HB22-1362

My name is Srinidhi Sampath Kumar and I am a Program Manager at RMI, formally known as Rocky Mountain Institute. Our headquarters are in Colorado. Our mission is to transform the global energy system to secure a clean, prosperous, zero-carbon future for all.

I'm writing in favor of the bill.

Over the last few years, I worked in affordable housing development and financing. I understand the ins and outs of proformas and the need for projects to pencil out especially in markets where the costs of construction are already high. One thing that I have consistently noticed is that climate progressive codes have supported developers to remain both first cost neutral and helped reduce long-term long-term utility and operations costs.

Colorado's buildings emit over [12 million metric tons](#) of greenhouse gases per year based on the GHG emissions inventory by the Colorado Department of Health and Environment—10% of state-wide emissions. Building right from the start is critical both for the climate but also to improve the health, comfort, and safety of residents especially lower-income residents of color. Building pollution disproportionately harms Coloradans of color. According to a US EPA paper, on average, BIPOC Coloradans are exposed to [25% more](#) outdoor PM2.5 formed by residential methane gas combustion than White Coloradans. Black Coloradans' exposure is 70% higher than White Coloradans.

While this bill does not require electrification, we must at the least start planning for solar-ready, electric ready buildings in the short-term. The climate crisis is at our doorsteps. As wildfires and extreme heat events are on the rise, our communities need to prioritize resiliency and safety. Besides, climate friendly, resilient buildings are more economical to build and maintain. From our own analysis, in Denver, an all-electric home saves about \$3,000 in net present costs and 12 tons of CO2 emissions over a 15-

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year period. A mixed-fuel home has a higher up-front cost than the all-electric home, which uses the heat pump system for both heating and cooling. Over a million households would benefit from bill savings today, and these bill savings will only grow as utilities reform their rates and incentives to be climate-aligned. The average household in CO will save \$296 on their energy bills based on an analysis from Rewiring America. This is very much needed as lower income communities face very high housing and energy burdens.

The bill's allocation of \$25 million dollars will provide workforce development opportunities. Being on this path, could create up to 4000 jobs, according to analysis by Rewiring America. Finally, we are pleased about the 25% allocation to low-income disproportionately impacted communities and request the bill authors to consider at least a 40% allocation, in line with the Justice40 initiative.

If this bill were to pass:

It will help create workforce development opportunities

It would lower the costs of construction

It will help residents and tenants that face high energy burden

It will help keep Colorado on its track to meet its climate goals

Stepping back, CO is not alone in this effort. We are seeing 12 other states move toward climate-aligned building codes across the country.

Sincerely,

Srinidhi Sampath Kumar

RMI



Senate State, Veterans, & Military Affairs Committee
Colorado General Assembly
200 East Colfax Avenue
Denver, CO 80203

May 5, 2022

Re: Support for HB22-1362 – Building Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Chairman Coleman, Vice Chair Jaquez Lewis, and Members of the Committee:

I am writing today to express Western Resource Advocates' (WRA) support for HB 22-1362, and the strike-below amendment, L054. This important bill will save families and businesses money on energy and help drive down emissions in the building sector.

WRA supports modernizing our energy codes. The bill strengthens the requirement for localities to update codes in 2025 and 2030, in particular requiring localities to adopt and enforce an equivalent or better code than the 2021 IECC by 2025. The United States Department of Energy has estimated that the 2021 IECC results in a roughly 9% energy and carbon emissions savings compared with the 2018 IECC. This is a win-win. HB22-1262 will not only help our state meet our climate change goals, but also save families money, protect Coloradans from energy price increases like those we experienced this winter, improve our health, and provide benefits to the electric grid.

We also support bill provisions that fund investments in low-income, disproportionately impacted, and just transition communities and that provide these communities with technical assistance in applying for grants.

We thank Senators Hansen and Winter for bringing this bill forward and Senate State Veterans & Military Affairs Committee members for your consideration. We urge you to vote "yes" on HB 1362.

Sincerely,

Meera Fickling
Senior Climate Policy Analyst
Western Resource Advocates
Meera.fickling@westernresources.org

Western Resource Advocates is a non-profit organization dedicated to protecting the West's land, air, and water to ensure that vibrant communities and agriculture exist in balance with nature.

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