

House Transportation, Housing & Local Government

01/29/2025 01:30 PM

HB25-1030 Accessibility Standards in Building Codes

Typed Text of Testimony Submitted

Name, Position, Representing	Typed Text of Testimony
<p>Craig Towler For Center for People With Disabilities</p>	<p>My name is Craig Towler, and I am the Director of Public Policy and Advocacy at the Center for People With Disabilities (CPWD). Our mission is to remove barriers to independent living for people with disabilities.</p> <p>I am here today to express our strong support for HB25-1030, which ensures Colorado’s building codes meet or exceed the accessibility standards outlined in the most recent International Building Code (IBC).</p> <p>Over 610,000 Coloradans—roughly 10% of our state’s population—live with a disability. Among them are approximately 120,000 veterans with service-connected disabilities. Despite the protections established by the Americans with Disabilities Act over 30 years ago, inconsistent building codes and gaps in enforcement continue to create barriers for these individuals. These barriers prevent them from safely living, working, and fully participating in their communities—not because of their disabilities but because spaces were not built with accessibility in mind.</p> <p>CPWD serves Boulder, Broomfield, Gilpin, Weld, Adams, Jefferson, and additional Counties. Imagine leaving your house to go to work, take your kids to school, or attend a doctor's appointment only to encounter inaccessible entrances, pathways, or restrooms. Imagine being unable to hear an emergency alarm or read evacuation instructions. For many Coloradans with disabilities, this is not hypothetical—it’s a daily reality.</p> <p>The current patchwork of accessibility standards across Colorado creates uncertainty and limits opportunities. It restricts access to housing, workplaces, and community spaces such as healthcare facilities, restaurants, and recreational areas. HB25-1030 offers a solution.</p> <p>By requiring local governments to adopt or exceed the most recent IBC accessibility standards, this bill will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Ensure buildings have accessible entrances, pathways, and bathrooms that everyone can use;Provide emergency alarms and signage designed for people with hearing or vision disabilities; andCreate consistency across jurisdictions, making it easier for developers to prioritize accessibility.

	<p>HB25-1030 is not just a step toward equity—it’s essential for achieving Governor Jared Polis’s vision of making Colorado “the best place to live, work, and play.” True equity means that all Coloradans, including those with disabilities, can live independently, access meaningful employment, and participate fully in their communities.</p> <p>Importantly, this bill will not increase construction costs. Studies show that integrating accessibility into initial designs is far more cost-effective than retrofitting buildings or litigating ADA violations. HB25-1030 ensures that Colorado’s growth is both inclusive and economically sound.</p> <p>Colorado is at a pivotal moment of transformative growth. Let’s seize this opportunity to ensure that growth is inclusive of all residents. On behalf of the thousands of Coloradans we serve at the Center for People With Disabilities, I urge you to vote YES on HB25-1030.</p> <p>Thank you for your time and consideration.</p>
<p>Jeany Rush Against themselves</p>	<p>TO: Transportation, Housing & Local Governments RE: HB25-1030 Accessibility Standards in Building Codes Sponsors: Joseph, Cutter, Winter FROM: Jeany Rush, Colorado Springs, Constituent VOTE: NO</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</p>

	<p>they can no longer afford to exist in our state and its insane taxes, and procedures. "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>
<p>Jennifer Ochs For themselves</p>	<p>Thank you Chairman for allowing me to comment on this bill. I wholeheartedly support HB25-1030. I am a wheelchair user and know that accessibility is so important and long overdue. One of the biggest barriers for people with disabilities is building inaccessibility. For inclusion to happen, the accessibility playing field must be even. I've heard from multiple people, about how accessible Paris is and how accommodating they are for people with disabilities. I want people to talk about how accessible America is and support for HB25-1030 will help make that happen. It is less expensive to build in accessibility than to modify existing buildings. HB 25-1030 will address the neglected enforcement of the ADA, it will also improve fire prevention. Vote yes for HB25-1030, it's the right thing to do.</p>

House Transportation, Housing & Local Government

01/29/2025 01:30 PM

HB25-1060 Electronic Fence Detection Systems

Typed Text of Testimony Submitted

Name, Position, Representing	Typed Text of Testimony
<p>Jeany Rush Against themselves</p>	<p>TO: TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING, & LOCAL GOVERNMENT RE: HB25-1060 Electronic Fence Detection Systems Concerning the Use of Electronic Fence Sponsors: Soper, Clifford FROM: Jeany Rush, Colorado Springs Constituent 1=29=25 VOTE: NO</p> <p>AS this bill defines what an electronic fence detection system is, and allows either local government, or other co. to monitor, that means the actual property owner does not totally control his own fence. Again, this lets government define, describe, and/or control the operation/installing of a private fence on a private property. This puts unnecessary burdens on private property ownership, adds fees, restrictions, and other controls which are better left to the commerce/private market place. We have so many rules, standards, fees, bills, and other controls, which exceed the rights of the government to impose upon owners, it is becoming the Communist State of Colorado.</p>

	<p>When did we lose control of our own ownership of properties to the point, we cannot step foot out of our properties without a permit?</p> <p>This is just too too much. Let's Stop this.</p>
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House Transportation, Housing & Local Government

01/29/2025 01:30 PM

HB25-1079 Indep Ethics Cmmn Jurisdiction

Typed Text of Testimony Submitted

Name, Position, Representing	Typed Text of Testimony
<p>Sabrina Herrick For themselves</p>	<p>I am writing today to support HB25-1079.</p> <p>My daughter is a student at Poudre School District, and my experience with PSD is that they need supervision by an ethics committee.</p> <p>In the last 2 years, 4 PSD employees have been arrested for sexual and/or physical abuse of minors, with many of the victims identified in the news as students.</p> <p>My daughter is a victim in one of these criminal cases. Her attacker, Tyler Zanella, was hired in August 2022 despite having pled guilty to child abuse in 2012, and was fired in May 2023. Complaints were made against Zanella by staff and parents alike as early as September 2022, but he was not investigated until May 2023. In our criminal case, Zanella pled guilty to abusing 11 disabled children, all aged 5-10 years old. Superintendent Brian Kingsley lied to my face that there had been no complaints against Zanella prior to the one that prompted the investigation and firing. Multiple PSD staff and parents had already informed me they had personally complained prior to May.</p> <p>In October 2024, PSD promoted the HR person who hired Zanella. I publicly spoke against this promotion to the school board, and was told I could not speak about it. Brian Kingsley then trespassed me from PSD property for "harassment of an employee" citing my peaceful public protests of the promotion.</p> <p>Brian Kingsley has also been investigated for having a relationship with one of his cabinet members. After an investigation by the same legal firm that defends PSD in their civil proceedings, the board announced they were clearing him of wrongdoing. To my knowledge, the results of the investigation have never been publicly released.</p>

	<p>However, shortly before the investigation was announced, the rumored affair partner went on leave, and quietly resigned shortly after its conclusion.</p> <p>PSD got a mill levy override during the 2024 election. One of the major criticisms of the effort was "PSD just gave raises to the Superintendent and his cabinet members." During PSD's campaigning for the mill levy override, they failed to mention that some of the extra funds would go towards an additional raise for the Superintendent. Parents of disabled students have reported that School Board members told them (to paraphrase) that their children won't receive the education they're entitled to under federal and state law unless the parents support PSD's efforts to get the mill levy override. This despite the fact that PSD leadership would only promise that "disabled students will benefit from better buses and buildings just like the rest of the students." Accusations have also been raised that the wording of the ballot measure was unconstitutional under Colorado Law.</p> <p>Prior to the mill levy override effort, PSD attempted to quietly shut down multiple school buildings with no public input. When a reporter got wind of this, they reached out to PSD for a comment for an article. Said reporter later told me that PSD's response was "can you please wait to do the article until after the board votes to do it?" The reporter refused. Public outcry following the article shut down the plan. Many criticisms of that plan and follow up plans to close different schools included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -forcing disabled students into inaccessible buildings -targeted efforts to close neighborhood schools with the best disability programs -targeted efforts to close neighborhood schools with a high POC and/or high poverty levels -failing to provide accurate data to the committee tasked with making recommendations to the board <p>PSD's Board is regularly publicly accused of violating Sunshine Law both in letter, by failing to provide adequate public description of agenda items, and in spirit, by only voting on agenda items that have been decided on in private "2 by 2 meetings."</p> <p>A district committee member has also publicly accused PSD staff of lying to the board about committee meeting discussions and decisions.</p> <p>A vote in favor of HB25-1079 is a vote for accountability for school district leadership. I urge you to support this bill.</p> <p>Thank you for your time.</p>
Mervin Thomas	Some test

None themselves	
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LCS Committees <committees.lcs.ga@coleg.gov>

HB25-1079

1 message

Julie Snyder <juliesnyder3@icloud.com>
To: committees.lcs.ga@coleg.gov

Tue, Jan 28, 2025 at 4:34 PM

Written testimony for Julie Snyder
juliesnyder323@gmail.com
For: Self

As a long time resident of Woodland Park, I am for the inclusion of school boards to HB25-1079. All communities deserve accountability, respect and confidence that our public school boards conduct themselves responsibly in policies and decision making including financial responsibility to the taxpayers

The erosion of our public school system is evident due to the actions of the board. There are many instances where the manipulation of ethics, transparency and blatant conflicts of interest have dictated the decision making processes in school policy and management.
To have the ability to address these concerns would be monumental to our community and those who are mindful of advocating for all students.



January 28, 2025

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

Dear Members of the Transportation, Housing & Local Government 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, health facilities, hotels, motels, and multi-family dwellings.

Colorado has no statewide building code. 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 all 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 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
110 16th Street Mall, Suite 1326
Denver, CO 80202
303-863-0437



LCS Committees <committees.lcs.ga@coleg.gov>

submitting written testimony

3 messages

Veronica Baker <veronicaleighbaker@gmail.com>
To: committees.lcs.ga@coleg.gov

Wed, Jan 29, 2025 at 3:25 PM

Hello,
I am trying to submit written testimony about HB 25 1079, and I haven't been able to advance through the menu to provide my written testimony. Can you advise?
Thank you,
Veronica Baker

LCS Committees <committees.lcs.ga@coleg.gov>
To: Veronica Baker <veronicaleighbaker@gmail.com>

Wed, Jan 29, 2025 at 3:35 PM

Hi Veronica -

I apologize for this occurrence. You can reply to this email with your testimony and I will share it with the committee.

Thank you,
Elizabeth Burger
[Quoted text hidden]

Veronica Baker <veronicaleighbaker@gmail.com>
To: LCS Committees <committees.lcs.ga@coleg.gov>

Wed, Jan 29, 2025 at 3:41 PM

Hello,
My name is Veronica Baker, and I am a concerned parent in Academy school District 20. I feel compelled to share my testimony with you.

The IEC itself says that the public should have respect for and confidence in public employees and elected officials. Covered individuals should avoid conduct that is in violation of their public trust or that creates the justifiable impression among members of the public that trust placed in them is being violated. I have first-hand experience with activities that specific members of the school board have done that violate their obligations to the District and taxpayers. I believe individuals have intentionally and knowingly reduced transparency and failed to follow the Districts own policies causing district and increased labor and legal costs for the District, which further undermines public confidence. More than one individual appears to be benefitting personally, professionally and, likely financially, by abusing their role as an elected official. Board members have failed to enforce their own governance policies internally, with credible evidence that one or more people are benefitting personally from this failure to act.

There are NO checks and balances when these situations happen. When Board Members and employees are complicit and fail to internally manage unethical behavior. I understand that CASB and the IEC are worried that people will make complaints about things they just disagree with. That's not why I'm here. I'm here because there are egregious problems that are happening in my district and others that CO legislators are allowing to happen. People need the help of the IEC to evaluate these situations, training individuals who are making mistakes because they don't understand, as well as administer some sort of penalty for intentionally unethical behaviors. I look forward to your action and communication on this matter.

Thank you,
Veronica Baker
[Quoted text hidden]



TO: The House, Transportation, Housing and Local Government Committee
FROM: The Arc of Colorado | Meredith Henry, Senior Policy Associate, mhenry@thearcofco.org
RE: **HB25-1030 Accessibility Standards in Building Codes**
DATE: Wednesday, January 29, 2025

Thank you to the Chair and Committee members of the House, Transportation, Housing and Local Government Committee for the opportunity to submit written testimony. My name is Meredith Henry, and I have the honor of serving as the Senior Policy and Advocacy Associate with The Arc of Colorado. Our mission is to promote and protect the human rights of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and actively support their full inclusion and participation in the community.

The Arc of Colorado supports House Bill 1030, Accessibility Standards in Building Codes. More needs to be done in Colorado to create accessible and affordable housing. This important bill aims to close the gaps in building code enforcement and review for accessibility requirements in multi-family residential buildings and in commercial building code. Accessibility benefits everyone, from those living with a disability to the growing aging population in Colorado that wants to age in place. We urge Colorado to adopt the International Building Codes across the state.

Being part of the community and living as independently as possible are among the most important values and goals shared by people with disabilities, their families, and advocates. A home of one's own – either rented or owned – is the cornerstone of independence for people with disabilities. However, across Colorado, people with disabilities, including intellectual, developmental, and related cognitive disabilities – commonly referred to as “IDD” – face a severe housing crisis.

For people who use mobility devices, finding housing with even basic accessibility features, such as an entrance with no steps, can be daunting, if not entirely impossible or unaffordable. The availability of affordable, accessible housing remains far less than the need, leaving far too many people with disabilities, including IDD, institutionalized, homeless, or paying too much in rent to afford other basics or living in severely inadequate conditions.

As Colorado increases the development of high-density housing, The Arc of Colorado supports this bill to ensure the availability of accessible housing and to increase commercial accessibility. It is crucial that this growth is built to be accessible, ensuring access for all people.

Thank you for your consideration.

Meredith Henry