

**First Regular Session
Seventy-fifth General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO**

ENGROSSED

*This Version Includes All Amendments Adopted
on Second Reading in the House of Introduction*

LLS NO. 25-0735.01 Christopher McMichael x4775

SENATE BILL 25-141

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Pelton R.,

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Winter T.,

Senate Committees
Transportation & Energy

House Committees

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 **CONCERNING AN EXEMPTION FOR CERTAIN MUNICIPALITIES FROM THE**
102 **REQUIREMENT TO ADOPT AN ENERGY CODE FOR RESIDENTIAL**
103 **BUILDINGS.**

Bill Summary

(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <http://leg.colorado.gov>.)

Under current law, every governing body of a municipality that has adopted and enforced a building code after July 1, 2023, is required to adopt and begin enforcing an energy code for residential buildings. The bill creates an exemption for municipalities with a population of less than 2,500 residents from having to adopt and enforce an energy code for

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.
*Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material to be added to existing law.
Dashes through the words or numbers indicate deletions from existing law.*

SENATE
2nd Reading Unamended
March 5, 2025

residential buildings.

1 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

2 **SECTION 1. Legislative declaration.** (1) The general assembly
3 finds and declares that:

4 (a) Rural and frontier communities are the most remote and
5 sparsely populated communities in Colorado;

6 (b) These communities have low population density and are
7 isolated from population centers and services;

8 (c) As such, rural and frontier communities have difficulties
9 building housing at an affordable cost for their residents because of the
10 cost of providing materials, infrastructure, and labor to the most isolated
11 areas of the state;

12 (d) Rural and frontier communities are also typically located in
13 depressed or even inverted housing markets, making the cost of building
14 homes in these communities financially unfeasible;

15 (e) Increased building code and energy code regulations create
16 burdens for rural and frontier communities, such as additional
17 construction requirements and specific certifications, which increase the
18 cost of housing in rural and frontier communities; and

19 (f) Established state building, plumbing, and electrical codes are
20 more than sufficient at protecting the health, safety, and welfare of
21 Coloradans who live in rural and frontier communities, and using the
22 established codes will reduce the cost of housing for people in those
23 communities.

24 (2) Therefore, the general assembly further declares that it is in
25 the best interest of the state to exempt rural and frontier communities

1 from additional energy code requirements in order to promote the
2 building of homes and reduce the cost of housing in rural and frontier
3 communities.

4 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 31-15-602, **add** (3.7)
5 as follows:

6 **31-15-602. Energy efficient building codes - legislative**
7 **declaration - exemption for certain municipalities - definitions -**
8 **repeal.** (3.7) NOTWITHSTANDING SUBSECTIONS (3) AND (3.5) OF THIS
9 SECTION, A MUNICIPALITY WITH A POPULATION OF LESS THAN TWO
10 THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED RESIDENTS, ACCORDING TO THE MOST RECENT
11 FEDERAL DECENNIAL CENSUS, IS NOT REQUIRED TO ADOPT AN ENERGY
12 CODE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS SECTION.

13 **SECTION 3. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act
14 takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the
15 ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly; except
16 that, if a referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V
17 of the state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this
18 act within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take
19 effect unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in
20 November 2026 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the
21 official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.