

ENERGY CODE UPDATE ACT HB19-1260



KEY POINTS

UPDATES AN OUTDATED EXISTING LAW, NOT A NEW REGULATION.

The model code has been updated five times since the initial law, with advancements in safety and technology, but the law still refers to the 2003 energy code.

PROTECTS HEALTH AND SAFETY.

Energy codes help ensure durability and resiliency, prevent mold and mildew issues, ensure proper air flow, and protect against temperature-related fatalities in elderly, infirm, or low-income citizens.

SAVES MONEY FOR RESIDENTS AND BUSINESSES.

The savings on energy bills far outweigh any extra upfront construction costs, saving money year after year. (Moving from 2006 to 2015/2018 energy code saves **\$6,019** on a 30-year mortgage, with a net-positive cash flow in just two years.)

MAKES HOME OWNERSHIP AND RENTALS MORE AFFORDABLE.

Utility bills are a key component of housing expenses. Insurance rates, too, are lower in communities with updated energy codes.

PROTECTS CONSUMERS AND HOMEBUYERS.

Homebuyers and renters typically cannot see behind the walls when buying or renting a new house. This bill guards against consumers paying for a new 2018-code house but only getting, say, a 2003-code house.

MAY BE REQUIRED FOR FEMA DISASTER FUNDING **(NEW)**

The Disaster Relief Recovery Act of 2018 (Public Law 115-123) permits FEMA to fund work consistent with "the latest published editions or relevant consensus-based codes, specifications, and standards that incorporate the latest hazard-resistant designs."

REDUCES CLIMATE CHANGE EMISSIONS AND IMPROVE RESILIENCY.

Energy efficiency is one of the most effective (and cost-effective) actions against climate change.

FREE TRAINING AND ADOPTION ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE.

The Colorado Energy Office, Xcel Energy, and some municipal utilities offer free, onsite, customized trainings for jurisdictions as they update to a newer energy code.

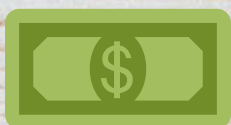
ABOUT THE BILL

This bill raises the minimum Colorado energy code from the 2003 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) to one of the three most recent versions of the IECC, at the time a local jurisdiction updates its other building codes.

The Colorado Legislature is responsible for setting the minimum energy code (established with Colo. Rev. Stat. § 30-28-201 and § 31-15-602). Local city and county agencies have the authority to exceed this minimum and verify compliance with all applicable building codes. Free training is available from Colorado Energy Office, Xcel Energy, and other municipal utilities.

**ALL COLORADANS
DESERVE THE HEALTH,
SAFETY, RESILIENCY,
EFFICIENCY, AND
MONEY SAVINGS
FROM AN UPDATED
ENERGY CODE.**

SAVES MONEY



SAVES ENERGY



CUTS CLIMATE
POLLUTION



PROTECTS
HOMEBUYERS &
RENTERS



PROTECTS
HEALTH & SAFETY



IMPACTS
DISASTER FUNDING
& INSURANCE RATES



“Keeping energy codes up to date with the building codes makes sense for our community, homebuyers, tenants, and the environment. It insures an energy efficient, safe, healthy and resilient home for the future.”

SUSAN MCFADDIN,
PhD, LEED AP, CEM,
REAL ESTATE
DEVELOPER & BROKER,
FORT COLLINS, GRAND
PRIZE WINNER OF DOE
HOUSING INNOVATION
AWARD 2016 & 2018



NET SAVINGS IN A 30-YR MORTGAGE

FROM 2009 TO
2015/2018 IECC

\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$ \$4,491

FROM 2003/2006
TO 2015/2018 IECC

\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$ \$6,019

2,400 sq ft house. Source: Pacific Northwest National Lab

YEARS TO NET POSITIVE CASH FLOW: 2

\$ SAVED BY PARKER RESIDENTS & BUSINESSES IN 3 YEARS OF NEW ENERGY CODES: \$1.2 MILLION

ENERGY CODES PRIMER

The International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) is one of a suite of model building codes designed to protect the health and safety of buildings. It is developed and published by the International Code Council (ICC), made up of many thousands of local building officials across the country, alongside other codes (fire code, plumbing code, etc.). Codes are updated every three years, most recently in 2018. Most jurisdictions adopt the whole suite of codes.

Like most other states, Colorado has a statewide minimum energy code (e.g. we are not exclusively “home rule” for the energy code). Most states update regularly to the latest code; ours is still in statute as the 2003 IECC. Local jurisdictions can go above our state minimum energy code, and can amend it but not weaken it.

The energy code reduced residential energy use 30% between the 2006-2012 versions, with similar efficiency but more flexibility and clarity in 2015 and 2018. The current IECC has different requirements based on climate zone, and offers four different flexible pathways for compliance.



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