

ONE HUNDRED NINTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION - 2025
COMMITTEE STATEMENT
LB531

Hearing Date: Tuesday February 18, 2025
Committee On: Urban Affairs
Introducer: Kauth
One Liner: Provide an exception to the requirement that buildings constructed with state funds comply with the 2018 International Energy Conservation Code

Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:
Advanced to General File with amendment(s)

Vote Results:
Aye: 7 Senators McKinney, Cavanaugh, J., Andersen, Clouse, Quick, Rountree, Sorrentino
Nay:
Absent:
Present Not Voting:

Testimony:

Proponents:

Senator Kathleen Kauth
K.C. Belitz
Amanda Brewer
Justin Brady

Adam Flanagan

Opponents:

Bryce Puck
Jeffrey C McCaslin

Jon Nebel

Neutral:

* ADA Accommodation Written Testimony

Representing:

Opening Presenter
Nebraska Department of Economic Development
Habitat for Humanity of Omaha
Nebraska Realtors Association, Nebraska State Home Builders Association, Metro Omaha Builders Association, Home Builders Association of Lincoln
Welcome Home Coalition

Representing:

Self
American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE)
Nebraska State Council of Electrical Workers

Representing:

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

LB 531 changes and provides new provisions relating to building codes.

Section-by-Section Summary:



Section 1 amends Section 58-701 of the Nebraska Affordable Housing Act to incorporate section 2 of the bill as part of the Act.

Section 2 creates a new section of law in the Nebraska Affordable Housing Act. This section prohibits the Department of Economic Development from requiring any new construction or rental conversion project that receives funding from the Affordable Housing Trust Fund to comply with the International Energy Conservation Code and obtain approval of building plans and specifications by the Department of Environment and Energy.

Section 3 amends Section 72-805 relating to buildings constructed with state funds to harmonize such section with the creation of section 2 of the bill.

Section 4: Repealer.

Explanation of amendments:

AM 397 adds language to Section 72-805, (section 3 of the bill,) clarifying that the Department of Environment and Energy shall not be required to review building plans and specifications upon evidence that the building plans and specifications have previously been reviewed by a county, city, or village enforcing a local building or construction code adopted pursuant to section 71-6406 of the Building Construction Act, if such local building or construction code includes the requirements of the 2018 International Energy Conservation Code.

Terrell McKinney, Chairperson

