

# **One Hundred Second Legislature - First Session - 2011**

## **Introducer's Statement of Intent**

### **LB546**

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**Chairperson: Senator Amanda McGill**

**Committee: Urban Affairs**

**Date of Hearing: February 08, 2011**

The following constitutes the reasons for this bill and the purposes which are sought to be accomplished thereby:

LB 546 updates the State Building Code by adopting the 2009 version of the International Residential Code (IRC), a publication of the International Code Council, a multi-industry Council that constantly does testing and research of building techniques and new building materials for inclusion in their recommended specifications for new construction. The "IRC" is revised and published every three years.

The IRC's scope is detached one and two-family dwellings and townhouses not more than three stories in height.

One section of the IRC, section R313, is exempted from adoption under LB 546. This section is a mandate for fire sprinklers in all new home construction. Other sections of the code that deal with plumbing give instructions for installation of fire sprinkler systems. These sections are not exempted and would remain in the code to provide installation guidance to homeowners and builders who choose to include fire sprinkler systems in their newly constructed dwelling.

LB 546 gives express authority to state agencies and local political subdivisions that adopt building codes to adopt the mandate for their local jurisdiction. Therefore, cities and counties with building codes would be able to decide if the mandate is appropriate for their local jurisdiction, taking into account their local infrastructure, local fire department and their local construction environment.

**Principal Introducer:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Senator Mike Gloor**