

**ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION - 2015**  
**COMMITTEE STATEMENT**  
**LB540**

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**Hearing Date:** Tuesday February 17, 2015  
**Committee On:** Urban Affairs  
**Introducer:** Crawford  
**One Liner:** Adopt updated international building code standards

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**Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:**  
Advanced to General File

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**Vote Results:**  
**Aye:** 7 Senators Coash, Crawford, Ebke, Hansen, Hughes, Krist, McCollister  
**Nay:**  
**Absent:**  
**Present Not Voting:**

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**Verbal Testimony:**

**Proponents:**

Sue Crawford  
Richard Hauffe  
Jay Davis  
Bob Puschendorf  
Joseph Kohout  
Lynn Rex

**Representing:**

District 45  
International Code Council  
City of Omaha  
Nebraska State Historical Society  
Professional Engineers Coalition  
League of Nebraska Municipalities

**Opponents:**

**Representing:**

**Neutral:**

Jerry Stilmock

**Representing:**

Nebraska State Volunteer Firefighters Association/  
Nebraska Fire Chiefs Association

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**Summary of purpose and/or changes:**

LB 540 would update the state building code by adopting the 2012 versions of the following codes:

1. The International Building Code (IBC), which covers all new construction except one- and two-family dwellings;
2. The International Residential Code (IRC), which covers new construction of one-and-two-family dwellings; and
3. The International Existing Building Code (IEBC), which covers repair, alteration, addition, and change of occupancy for existing buildings.

LB 540 would not adopt Chapter 13 of the 2012 IBC and Chapter 11 of the 2012 IRC, which correspond with the 2012 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC). The current state energy code is the 2009 IECC.

LB 540 also would not adopt Section R313 of the 2012 IRC, which requires that new one- and two-family dwellings and townhouses include a fire sprinkler system. Under the bill, the state building code would continue to exclude the residential fire sprinkler mandate, but political subdivisions would retain the ability to opt in to the fire sprinkler mandate.

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Sue Crawford, Chairperson