

## **LB799 – International Existing Building Code**

**LB799** is legislation to authorize the International Existing Building Code as part of Nebraska's state building code. Currently, the state building code recognizes only a code intended for new construction.

There is the common perception that the rehabilitation of older and historic buildings can be more difficult by conflicting, more costly and inflexible code requirements intended primarily for new construction. That's why **LB799** was proposed.

The scope of the International Existing Building Code covers repair, alteration, addition and change of occupancy for existing buildings, while achieving appropriate levels of safety.

If passed, **LB799** offers the following benefits to cities and the state:

- Allows local governments the authority to adopt the International Existing Building Code, IF the jurisdiction chooses.
- Allows alternatives to achieve life-safety standards, but does not supersede fire codes.
- Maintains existing building stock.
- Preserves historic buildings.
- Contributes to the revitalization of older neighborhoods and commercial districts.

Codes officials recognize the International Existing Building Code. The Nebraska Code Officials Association has issued a resolution of support.

**LB799** offers the following benefits to property owners:

- Reduces cost of rehabilitation to property owners.
- Makes rehabilitation of existing buildings more feasible.
- Avoids conflicting requirements for old and new construction.

**LB799** offers another "tool" in the "toolkit" for those who rehabilitate older and historic buildings.