

**TOWN OF MEAD, COLORADO
RESOLUTION NO. 31-R-2024**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF MEAD, COLORADO OPPOSING HOUSE BILL
24-1168, REQUIRING LIVE-STREAMING OF AND VIDEO CONFERENCE
PARTICIPATION IN ALL PUBLIC MEETINGS**

WHEREAS, local public meetings are held for the benefit and engagement of local populations, are currently posted and accessible in accordance with the applicable requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (“ADA”) and Colorado law, and are required to comply with the Colorado Open Meetings Law; and

WHEREAS, as introduced, House Bill 24-1168 (“HB 1168”) would require local government bodies to allow authorized speakers and participants to provide public testimony through video conferencing at all public meetings, ignoring the reality that live-streamed open meetings have enabled “Zoom-bombing” and provided platforms for external hate groups to inject inflammatory rhetoric into meetings of municipal governing bodies in Colorado; and

WHEREAS, in its current form, HB 1168 constitutes an unfunded statewide mandate that requires local public bodies to live-stream all public meetings, together with absorbing costs related to adhering to additional recording, retention, and accessibility requirements; and

WHEREAS, those fixed costs, together with costs associated with initial and ongoing staff training will place additional burdens on constrained local government budgets; and

WHEREAS, HB 1168 will undermine local governing bodies’ ability to regulate their own public meetings, which are already subject to federal and state regulation, and impose additional unfunded costs on local jurisdictions.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of the Town of Mead, Weld County, Colorado, that:

Section 1. It is the position of the Board of Trustees of the Town of Mead (the “Board”) that HB 1168 is superfluous because Colorado municipalities are already required to provide access to all public meetings in compliance with the ADA and Colorado law. The Board also specifically finds that HB 1168, if adopted, will impose onerous mandates that will require municipalities to increase staffing and technical capabilities while increasing opportunities for outside groups or individuals to disrupt public meetings with irrelevant, hateful messages.

Section 2. The Board opposes and strongly urges the Colorado General Assembly to vote NO on House Bill 24-1168.

Section 3. Effective Date. This resolution shall become effective immediately upon adoption.

Section 4. Certification and Delivery. The Town Clerk shall certify to the passage of this resolution and make not less than one copy of the adopted resolution available for inspection by the public during regular business hours. The Town Clerk shall also deliver a copy of this resolution to each of the bill’s sponsors, and provide a courtesy copy to the Colorado Municipal League.

INTRODUCED, READ, PASSED, AND ADOPTED THIS 25th DAY OF MARCH, 2024.

ATTEST:

TOWN OF MEAD:

By: _____
Mary E. Strutt, MMC, Town Clerk

By: _____
Colleen G. Whitlow, Mayor