

CDOT ENVIRONMENTAL PRODUCT DECLARATIONS (EPD) WORKSHOP

HISTORY OF HB 21-1303 (BUY CLEAN COLORADO ACT)

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Civil, Environmental and Architectural Engineering
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO **BOULDER**

17th Annual Colorado Transportation Symposium



“We’re crazy, driven, hardworking believers. Not like those other countries where they stroll home, they stop by the café, they take the whole month of August off.” – advertisement for Cadillac’s 2014 ELR hybrid



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Outline

- Agenda
- History of EPD legislation
- History of HB 21-1303 *Buy Clean Colorado Act*
- Perspective from the bill sponsor, Rep. Tracey Bennett

**First Regular Session
Seventy-third General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO**

REREVISED

*This Version Includes All Amendments
Adopted in the Second House*

LLS NO. 21-0322.01 Pierce Lively x2059

HOUSE BILL 21-1303

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Bennett and McLachlan, Amabile, Bacon, Bird, Boesenecker, Cutter, Duran, Froelich, Gray, Hooton, Jackson, Kennedy, Kipp, Lontine, McCormick, Michaelson Jenet, Ortiz, Ricks, Sirota, Titone, Valdez A., Weissman, Woodrow

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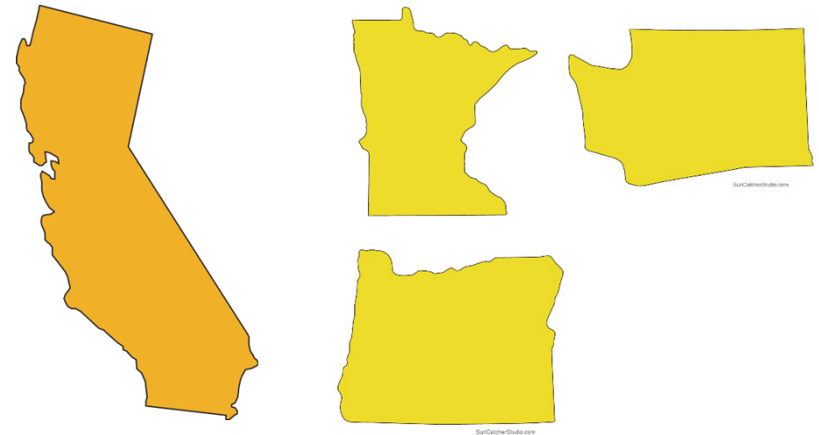
History of EPD legislation

- *Environmental Product Declarations* (EPDs) are the current state of the art for representing the environmental impacts of manufactured products
 - EPD definitions and methodologies are defined by International Organization for Standardization (ISO)
 - European Committee for Standardization (CEN) – published EN 15804 with common *Product Category Rules* (PCR) for construction materials



History of EPD legislation

- LEED v.4 & Green Globes led adoption of EPDs
 - Two points available in its green building rating system
 - Most implementation in vertical construction projects
 - Bottom-up effort that started with material producers
- “Buy Clean” legislation
 - Buy Clean California Act (2017)
 - Oregon DEQ – supporting concrete EPD
 - Port Authority of NY and NJ (PANYNJ) – established EPD requirements in 2021
 - Washington and Minnesota considering use



Buy Clean Colorado Act

- HB 21-1303 assigns responsibilities for building construction to *Office of State Architect* and for road, highway, and bridge construction to *CDOT*
 - *Road, highway, and bridge eligible materials: asphalt and asphalt mixtures; cement and concrete mixtures; and steel*
- Requires CDOT to:
 - Strive to achieve a continuous reduction of greenhouse gas emissions over time.*
- For invitation for bids for contracts for public projects:
 - Require the contractor who is awarded the contract to submit a current Environmental Product Declaration, Type III, as defined by the International Organization for Standardization standard 14025:2006...for each eligible material proposed to be used in the public project.*



Buy Clean Colorado Act

State Rep. Tracey Bennett's perspective:



- Motivation – State Sen. Chris Hansen tried to pass embodied carbon bill in 2019. Rep. Bennett worked with BlueGreen Alliance and Carbon Leadership Forum to re-write bill.
- Split of buildings and roads – Legislatures are not the experts, let the experts figure it out.
- Ultimate goal – we must do everything we can to limit CO₂ emissions.
- Patchwork of rules – change happens at the grassroots level and builds up to national level. Learn from one state and build upon those lessons.
- High cost of generating EPDs – climate change isn't waiting. Every single person in this country is affected by climate change.



Questions?

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Thank you!

