



## GET THE MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT PERSPECTIVE

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## NEWS RELEASE

For immediate release

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### URBAN RENEWAL BILL INTRODUCED

**January 28, 2015, Denver, CO**— A bill that expands the participation of counties in the urban renewal process has been introduced in the Colorado Senate. SB 15-135 is sponsored by Senators Beth Martinez Humenik of Thornton and Cheri Jahn of Wheat Ridge. The proposed legislation adds a county commissioner-appointed member to urban renewal authorities whose members are currently appointed by municipalities and helps ensure fiscal fair play by making all taxing entities whole at the conclusion of a project.

“Counties have been seeking a greater voice in the urban renewal process,” according to Arvada Mayor and CML executive board immediate past president Marc Williams. “This bill allows counties to offer direct input from inception to completion of any urban renewal redevelopment project.”

If enacted by the General Assembly, the bill will give counties a seat at the table during the development of the tax increment financing package that is needed to make these types of redevelopment projects successful.

“This bill will implement good ideas without creating conflict over complicated issues that should be resolved locally,” states Fort Collins Mayor and CML executive board member Karen Weitkunat.

Urban renewal is a public/private partnership used by municipalities to redevelop blighted urban areas that are plagued by a range of difficulties that make the area unattractive for redevelopment by the private sector alone.

CML is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization established in 1923 and represents the interests of 267 cities and towns. For more information on CML, please visit [www.cml.org](http://www.cml.org) or call 303-831-6411.

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