



April 22, 2024

State, Civic, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee
Colorado General Assembly
200 E. Colfax
Room 307
Denver, CO 80203

RE: 24-1454 Grace Period Noncompliance Digital Accessibility

Dear Honorable Colorado Representatives:

The City of Aspen is committed to and has been working in good faith toward making digital information communication technology user friendly for everyone, regardless of ability, and is diligently working toward this compliance law for all of our digital communication platforms. The grace period proposed in House Bill 24-1454 would provide a welcome reprieve from the threat of fines.

Aspen has been working diligently to comply with the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines, and while we have made incredible strides, there is still much to do. One concern is the lengthy process to confirm that third-party vendor platforms are accessible and to address multi-year contracts with vendors who may be unable to comply. Publication of the Permanent Rules, "8 CCR 1501-11, Rules Establishing Technology Accessibility Standards" in late February 2024 highlighted additional areas that need to be addressed. Additionally, the city has thousands and thousands of assets that need to be evaluated for whether they remain "in use" and remediated.

Please vote in favor of House Bill 24-1454 to allow local governments additional time to comply with these important rules.

Sincerely,

Aspen Mayor Torre