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Bill 50: Municipal Affairs Statutes Amendment Act, 2025

RMA Analysis



Hello RMA Mayors/Reeves and CAOs,

As you may be aware, **Bill 50: Municipal Affairs Statutes Amendment Act, 2025**, was introduced to the Legislative Assembly on April 8, 2025. The Bill proposes extensive amendments to the *Municipal Government Act* (MGA), *Local Authorities Elections Act* (LAEA), *New Home Buyer Protection Act* (NHBPA), and *Safety Codes Act* (SCA).

Bill 50 significantly impacts rural municipalities. Changes to the MGA reform the intermunicipal collaboration framework (ICF) process to narrow the scope of the services that can be included in ICFs, as well as introduces expectations or requirements for use of data and joint input into service levels and capital costs for intermunicipal services. The Bill also significantly alters governance processes by eliminating codes of conduct, increasing CAO reporting requirements, and standardizing council procedures under ministerial authority. Official administrators will also have expanded access to municipal operations.

Amendments to the LAEA entrench political party involvement in elections and provide financial advantages to party-affiliated candidates. Changes to the NHBPA expand warranty requirements and restrict exemptions for owner-builders, which may pose challenges for rural residents. SCA changes enhance ministerial oversight and require Council appointees to have experience with home warranty programs.

To support members, RMA has developed an overview and analysis document: **Bill 50: RMA Analysis**. While we support certain elements of the Bill, we have raised numerous concerns and are actively seeking clarification from the Minister on several issues.

We encourage you to review the analysis and contact RMA's Policy and Advocacy team with any questions, comments, or concerns. We are also planning a virtual town hall in the coming weeks to hear directly from members and facilitate further discussion.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Kind regards,

Rural Municipalities of Alberta

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