



## **Vote YES! On SB17-089**

**BACKGROUND AND WHO WE ARE** – Disability Law Colorado (DLC) is Colorado’s federally-mandated and state-designated Protection and Advocacy System for people with disabilities, as authorized by the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act of 2000, the Protection and Advocacy for Individuals with Mental Illness Act, and the Protection and Advocacy for Individuals Rights section of the Rehabilitation Act.

**VOTE YES!** – Disability Law Colorado strongly supports Senate Bill 17-089 which declares that consumers of electricity have a right to install and use electricity storage systems on their property.

### **THIS BILL HELPS PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES**

- **Electricity storage systems allow people who require oxygen therapy to remain at home with a backup during power outages.** Diseases like sleep apnea, cystic fibrosis, and severe chronic obstructive pulmonary disease can require oxygen therapy on a regular basis, typically through oxygen concentrators. Power outages create emergency situations because the person using the oxygen concentrator has to find an alternative source of energy or potentially be hospitalized.
- **This emergency factor could determine whether a person can live in the community.** Individuals with disabilities are at risk of institutionalization when they are unable to care for themselves. With an electricity storage system on the property, the oxygen concentrator would automatically transfer to the storage system when the electricity fails.

**SUPPORT INDEPENDENT LIVING** – By voting in favor of SB 17-089, we are supporting the individuals with disabilities who require oxygen therapy to continue living in the community.

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