

Senate Transportation & Energy

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HB22-1361 Oil & Gas Reporting

Typed Text of Testimony Submitted

Name, Position, Representing	Typed Text of Testimony
<p>Heidi Leathwood</p> <p>For</p> <p>350 Colorado</p>	<p>Dear Chair Winter and Committee members,</p> <p>Thank you very much for hearing testimony on this bill. I am writing as Climate Policy Analyst for 350 Colorado and as a member of the public in Colorado. I write in strong support of HB22-1361. It is very important to the well-being of Coloradans to have the additional support provided by this bill to ensure transparency, accountability and enforcement of oil and gas reporting. Historically there have been issues with tens of thousands of reports never being collected, and hundreds millions of dollars of taxes not being collected. I urge you to vote yes on this bill.</p> <p>Thank you for your work.</p> <p>Heidi Leathwood</p>
<p>Jaime Giesen</p> <p>For</p> <p>Self</p>	<p>Oil and Gas is a major contributor to pollution and causes major health issues to the citizens of Colorado. It is past time they, and other industries, are held accountable. Conducting reasonable and accurate performance audits is only fair and is a first step to understanding the health of our community. The oil and gas industry has been taking advantage of loop holes in reporting for years at the expense of the health of people while collecting large profits. It's time for that to stop. We need to understand what is happening and we need to have reasonable and fair fines when violations are done.</p>
<p>James Rees</p> <p>For</p> <p>Self</p>	<p>To the Senate Transportation and Energy Committee,</p> <p>The State Auditor's 2020 review of the production reports filed by 420 active oil and gas companies to the COGCC between 2016 and 2018 found that 66% of companies missed some required reports detailing how much each well produced. This rampant and ongoing underreporting leads to millions of dollars lost in severance tax revenue each year.</p> <p>It is immoral and inexcusable that this money is going to oil companies and not to local governments, schools, and hospitals where severance tax money is destined. That is why I write to express my strongest support for</p>

	<p>HB22-1361. This bill would add mandatory fines and a zero-tolerance policy for oil and gas operators for rule violations and late reporting, and would introduce penalties for oil and gas operators not paying adequate amount in severance taxes. Whether oil and gas decides to pay its fair share, or gets caught and has to cough up penalties, we would have a better system than the one that we currently have by adopting this bill.</p> <p>We have stringent oil, gas, and mining regulations here in Colorado. Unfortunately, and with impunity, these industries have chosen to neglect them, at the expense of our public institutions, our health, our environment, and our future. It is now up to us to make them even more stringent.</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <p>A very concerned citizen</p>
<p>Ron Bennett For Self</p>	<p>Please vote yes for HB22-1361. Industry reporting should be shared and reconciled between state agencies. This is both fiscally responsible and in the interest of public health. Thank you.</p>