

Senate Transportation & Energy

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HB22-1348 Oversight Of Chemicals Used In Oil & Gas

Typed Text of Testimony Submitted

Name, Position, Representing	Typed Text of Testimony
Michayla Neumann For Self	<p>My name is Michayla Neumann, I am a CSU undergrad student who is currently majoring in political science with a concentration in environmental policy. I recently attended a 350 Colorado meeting about these bills. I want to see the HB22-1348 to pass because it would be really good for the community. Requiring the "disclosure of certain chemical information for products used in downhole oil and gas operations" is really important. Some of these chemicals include PFAS which Even small doses of PFAS have been linked to these serious health effects. Fetuses and newborns are especially vulnerable to PFAS. State leaders need to pass legislation to end the use of highly toxic chemicals and create a future in which the products in our homes, schools, and workplaces are free of dangerous chemicals. I don't want to see my beautiful state and all the wonderful people in it be harmed because this bill didn't pass.</p>
Brent Goodlet For Self	<p>Dear Senators,</p> <p>I am writing to you today to urge your support for HB22-1348, for disclosure of the toxic chemicals used for drilling and fracking in the state.</p> <p>As a scientist with experience handling dangerous chemicals safely, the idea that any corporation could withhold the name, concentration, ingredients, or safety information about a chemical being pumped into the ground was shocking.</p> <p>Medical providers treating chemical exposure victims would have no clue how to treat their patients without this information from state health officials, and state officials would have no way of providing this information if it is legally withheld from them under the guise of "trade secrets".</p> <p>How could officials at the department of health and environment sufficiently protect our public health, air, water, and soil if they too are in the dark about what chemicals are being used across the state? How could</p>

	<p>they respond to a serious spill of drilling fluid if they don't know what kinds of personal protective equipment are required, or what types of mitigation methods are most effective?</p> <p>Are the economic interests of oil and gas operators to maintain "trade secrets" really more important than protecting our environment, our frontline communities, and our industry workers who risk chemical exposure day-in and day-out?</p> <p>The state routinely collects and protects far more important confidential information from residents and businesses. The state could easily protect any trade secret chemicals from public disclosure — if it sought to do so. But keeping health officials and academic researchers and community leaders and wildlife stewards all in the dark about the myriad toxic chemicals being pumped into the ground across the state by oil and gas operators is absurd, dangerous and wrong.</p> <p>Please see the logic of this simple bill and do right by the people of Colorado by passing HB22-1348 without delay. It's the very least that oil and gas operators, their service providers, and suppliers can do in exchange for the right to reap enormous profits from our state.</p> <p>Thank you for your time and attention.</p>
<p>Heidi Leathwood For 350 Colorado</p>	<p>Dear Chair Winter and Committee members,</p> <p>Thank you very much for taking testimony. I write in support of HB22-1348, as a member of the public, and as Climate Policy Analyst for 350 Colorado. This bill is a start at ensuring Coloradans are not being poisoned by toxic frack fluid chemicals that are allowed to be concealed behind 'trade secret' designations. We now know from a Physicians for Social Responsibility report that frac fluid often contains PFAS and that thousands of wells in Colorado have very likely used these toxic chemicals in their operations without having to disclose this.</p> <p>Chemicals classified as PFAS are extremely toxic and they never degrade, either within the human body or in the environment. They should be prohibited. And other toxic chemicals should not be able to be concealed. The public has a right to know what we are being exposed to. Trade secrets should not be allowed to prevent the COGCC from fulfilling their mandate to protect the public. Please vote yes on this bill.</p> <p>Thank you for your consideration.</p>

	Heidi Leathwood
Jaime Giesen For Self	Colorado needs to protect its residents by restricting the sale of products containing PFAS where there are safer and viable alternatives. PFAS' should be phased out by 2031. The State should lead by prioritizing the purchasing of PFAS-free items where available. This is the right thing to do for the health of citizens and it is a feasible action that has already worked for other states. It's time for Colorado to be a leader in a PFAS-free future.
Ron Bennett For Self	Please vote yes for HB22-1348 which will protect public health while also protecting industry trade secrets. Thank you.
JD Ruybal For Self	I support HB22-1348: Enhanced Oversight of Chemicals Used During Oil and Gas Production



Good afternoon, Chair and members of the committee- my name is Guyleen Castriotta, and I am the Mayor of the City and County of Broomfield.

I am here today testifying in support of HB-1348 on the behalf of Counties & Commissioners Acting Together. CCAT is a group of counties and individual commissioners with a membership that includes urban, frontier, and rural counties that works to provide a unified, independent, and mission-driven voice at the state Capitol.

We believe that the state can continue to elevate the vitality of our communities by expanding transparency in downhole operations in order to determine if PFAS (highly toxic chemicals) are being used in fracking wells.

In 2017 Broomfield learned that numerous pads and up to 84 wells were being planned in close proximity to densely populated neighborhoods.

Given the state laws in 2017, our community was on the receiving end of statutes that allowed the O & G operator(s) to enter our neighborhoods without regard to the impact. Our residents have been subjected to years of life-altering health impacts that accompany industrial-size operations - years of 24/7 noise, lights, dust, smells, and physical ailments.

If fact, we are anxiously awaiting the soon-to-be-released results from our public health study conducted in partnership with Colorado University on the health impacts of Oil & Gas operations.

We are confident that those scientific results will show that there are, in fact, short-term health impacts, while studies continue in earnest on the long-term impacts.

Communities like Broomfield are precluded from driving real change that would proactively and fundamentally begin to protect the health of residents. Right now Broomfield residents living in close proximity to the industrial size Oil & Gas operations have been guinea pigs for the adverse effects, only to be told based on current standards and laws, data collection is the extent of our influence.

Promoting increased transparency for both the public and local governments before chemicals are used will help to address local concerns, conditions, and desires for oil & gas production.

In recent years Colorado has taken significant steps to regulate and keep pace with the significant technological advances in oil and gas development. CCAT believes that HB-1348 will continue to build off of that good work to help curb the widespread use of secrecy claims in fracking sites that make it impossible to gauge if toxic chemicals have been used.

I am grateful to be here today in front of you all. It has been a long, scary, and arduous journey to navigate these complex issues in Broomfield over the last 4+ years.

Sitting here today, finally, there is hope. Please pass HB-1348, for the health and safety of Coloradans, and send a message to all those that have operated in Colorado with little to no restrictions on what they put in the air and in the water, that those days are over.



Guyleen Castriotta

Mayor Guyleen Castriotta