

Senate Finance
 06/07/2021 Upon Adjournment
 HB21-1266 Env'tl Justice Disproportionate Impacted Community
 Typed Text of Testimony Submitted

| Name, Position, Representing | Typed Text of Testimony |
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| <p>Jen Clanahan For Mountain Mamas</p> | <p>Good afternoon. I'm Jen Clanahan, Colorado State Director for Mountain Mamas. Thank you for the opportunity to address the committee today. We are a group of thousands of moms, grandmothers and others across the state who are concerned about our kids, their health and their future. We are supportive HB21-1266 and of the amendment. We are grateful that the legislature is considering this bill today and encourage a yes vote. We believe this bill will help get our state on the right path to dealing with the our greenhouse gas pollution problem.</p> <p>We are in a climate crisis; climate change is already here and it will take bold action to address it. It may not be easy but that doesn't mean it shouldn't be done. And inaction on climate is not free. A recent study by doctors puts the price tag on the annual health impacts of climate change at \$820 billion dollars.</p> <p>NO parent wants to leave their child a future full of a never-ending wildfire season, drought, heatwaves, increased insect-borne disease and food shortages so we must do everything we can to turn this ship around and address climate change and lower our greenhouse gas emission.</p> <p>We are disappointed that it does not include enforceability in the building and transportation sectors particularly since the transportation sector is the sector of our economy that contributes the most pollution. We are hopeful that the rulemakings taking place at the AQCC this year can make strides necessary to bring pollution levels down but also urge lawmakers to bring back provisions next year that are not addressed in those rulemakings.</p> <p>Our kids count on us to take care of them and we parents are counting on you, our elected officials, to help us do what's best for them. Please vote yes on HB1266 so that we can bring dangerous pollution levels down in all communities.</p> |



June 7th, 2021

GRID Alternatives Colorado Supportive Testimony for HB21-1266

Good afternoon committee members,

My name is Tom Figel and I am offering testimony in support of HB21-1266 on behalf of GRID Alternatives Colorado. GRID Alternatives' mission is to build community-powered solutions to advance economic and environmental justice through renewable energy. We've operated low-income solar and job training programs statewide in Colorado since 2014.

Low-income, environmental justice and disproportionately impacted communities have for too long borne the brunt of environmental and climate impacts. At the same time, addressing climate change and environmental issues has the potential to bring tremendous benefits for these communities, such as health benefits, access to solar and other clean energy technologies, electricity bill and transportation fuel savings, resiliency, job opportunities, job training, and economic opportunities.

This bill will ensure that low-income and environmental justice communities' voices are centered in Colorado's decision making and provide critical resources to support mitigation projects for these communities, as well as to support participation and representation in rulemakings. GRID Alternatives can speak from experience that this legislation is critical to agencies like the Public Utility Commission to enable equitable access to participation in processes by disproportionately impacted communities and ensure strong and equitable policy outcomes for our state.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify and we urge the passage of HB21-1266, to ensure a just and equitable future in Colorado

Tom Figel

Senior Policy Director

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