A BILL FOR AN ACT

CONCERNING A REDUCTION IN GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS IN COLORADO, AND, IN CONNECTION THERewith, REQUIRING THAT, BY THE YEAR 2050, STATEWIDE GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS BE REDUCED BY EIGHTY PERCENT OF THE LEVELS OF GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS THAT EXISTED IN THE YEAR 2005.

Bill Summary

(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at http://leg.colorado.gov.)

The bill requires that, by the year 2050, statewide greenhouse gas emissions be reduced by at least 80% of the levels of greenhouse gas
Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:

SECTION 1. In Colorado Revised Statutes, add 24-20-111.5 as follows:

24-20-111.5. Reduce greenhouse gas emissions statewide - legislative declaration - definition. (1) The General Assembly hereby finds, determines, and declares that:

(a) Climate change is occurring and it is due to anthropogenic emissions;

(b) Climate change adversely affects Colorado's economy, public health, and way of life;

(c) We must work together to reduce Colorado's greenhouse gas emissions in order to limit the increase in the global average temperature to between one and one-half to two degrees Celsius, which limited increase would significantly reduce the risks and effects of climate change;

(d) By reducing greenhouse gases, Colorado will also reduce other key air pollutants, which will, in turn, improve public health and the environment; and

(e) In addition to reducing greenhouse gas emissions, climate policies can spur innovation, drive investments in less-polluting technologies, and enable a transition to a modern, resilient, and economically vibrant society.

(2) As used in this section, "greenhouse gas" means the gases that may be reported to the Federal Department of Energy pursuant to 10 CFR part 300.
(3) (a) On or before the year 2050, the statewide emissions of greenhouse gases shall be reduced in Colorado by at least eighty percent below the levels of greenhouse gas emissions that existed in the year 2005, and the reduced levels of greenhouse gas emissions shall be maintained at or below the reduced levels thereafter.

(b) Colorado shall have statewide programs in place to meet the greenhouse gas emissions target set forth in subsection (3)(a) of this section.

SECTION 2. Act subject to petition - effective date. This act takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly (August 8, 2018, if adjournment sine die is on May 9, 2018); except that, if a referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1(3) of article V of the state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this act within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take effect unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in November 2018 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.