Second Regular Session Seventy-fourth General Assembly STATE OF COLORADO

REENGROSSED

This Version Includes All Amendments Adopted in the House of Introduction SENATE BILL 24-229

LLS NO. 24-1188.01 Jennifer Berman x3286

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A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 CONCERNING MEASURES TO MITIGATE OZONE POLLUTION IN THE

102 <u>STATE, AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, MAKING AN</u>

103 <u>APPROPRIATION.</u>

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 <u>http://leg.colorado.gov</u>.)

Section 2 of the bill requires the division of administration (division) in the department of public health and environment (department) to propose rules to the air quality control commission (commission) to reduce certain emissions of oxides of nitrogen (NOx) generated by upstream oil and gas operations in certain areas of the state





by 50% by 2030 relative to 2017 NOx emission levels.

Section 3 requires the division to prepare an annual air quality enforcement benchmark report to summarize the division's statewide enforcement actions, including civil penalties assessed.

Under current law, the division or commission, in an enforcement action, cannot obtain a temporary restraining order or preliminary injunction if there is probable cause that the temporary restraining order or preliminary injunction would cause serious harm to the person affected by the temporary restraining order or preliminary injunction or another person or if the source to which the enforcement action pertains has obtained a renewable operating permit and continues operations in compliance with that permit. **Section 4** repeals those limitations on temporary restraining orders and preliminary injunctions. **Section 4** also authorizes a district attorney or the attorney general to seek injunctive relief to reduce the potential for a recurrence of a violation.

Sections 5 and 6 clarify that the division has authority to impose civil penalties for violations of requirements related to toxic air contaminants, fenceline and community-based monitoring, and, if enacted in House Bill 24-1338, petroleum refinery emissions monitoring.

Section 8 authorizes the director of the energy and carbon management commission (ECMC) to hire at least 2 community liaisons to serve as dedicated resources for disproportionately impacted communities, and section 12 authorizes funding of the community liaison positions from the energy and carbon management cash fund.

Under current law, an oil and gas operator (operator) is required to obtain a permit from the ECMC to commence oil and gas drilling operations. **Section 9** requires the operator to also obtain from the ECMC a license to conduct oil and gas operations. **Section 9** also requires operators to take actions in accordance with ECMC rules to reduce certain emissions of NOx generated from oil and gas production and preproduction operations. The ECMC is also required, in consultation with the department, to adopt rules to require enhanced systems and practices to avoid, minimize, and mitigate emissions of ozone precursors from oil and gas operations at newly permitted oil and gas locations in certain parts of the state.

Section 10 limits a court's authority to postpone the effective date of an ECMC order suspending or revoking an operator's license to conduct oil and gas operations or a certificate of clearance, requiring the court to first consider various factors, including whether the moving party would face real, immediate, and irreparable injury if the effective date is not postponed and the effect that such postponement would have on the public interest.

Section 11 expands the ECMC's enforcement authority to include revoking an operator's license to conduct oil and gas operations and expands the types of violations that are subject to suspension of all of the operator's permits and certificates of clearance and the operator's license to conduct oil and gas operations to include violations resulting in a penalty of \$1,000,000 or more, violations that cause a major adverse impact, as defined by the ECMC by rule, and violations that cause death or serious bodily injury.

Section 13 expands the scope of the orphaned wells mitigation enterprise to help finance the plugging, reclamation, and remediation of marginal wells that are at the highest risk of becoming orphaned.

1 Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:

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SECTION 1. Legislative declaration. (1) The general assembly finds and determines that:

- 4 (a) Emissions of ozone precursors, such as oxides of nitrogen 5 (NOx) and volatile organic compounds, contribute to the formation of 6 ozone and to public health impacts for individuals exposed to higher 7 levels of air pollution;
- 8 (b) Oil and gas activities are among the largest anthropogenic 9 contributors to ozone precursor emissions in the ozone nonattainment 10 area;
- (c) Sources of NOx from upstream oil and gas operations present
 significant opportunities to reduce ozone precursors and improve public
 health;
- (d) Residents of disproportionately impacted communities in the
 ozone nonattainment area may be exposed to higher levels of NOx than
 other Coloradans;
- (e) The air quality control commission adopted rules in December
 2023 designed to achieve a thirty percent reduction in NOx emissions
 generated by upstream oil and gas operations, including preproduction
 operations, by 2025;
- 21

(f) Despite efforts to reduce ozone precursor emissions in the

ozone nonattainment area, more work is necessary to protect public
 health;

3 (g) State agencies cannot improve air quality through regulations
4 alone and need more permitting and enforcement authority to ensure
5 compliance with the state's environmental statutes and rules; and

6 (h) Transparency for the public regarding the state's efforts is7 critical.

8

(2) Therefore, the general assembly declares that:

9 (a) Both the Colorado department of public health and 10 environment and the energy and carbon management commission need 11 to do more, both together and individually, to address the state's ozone 12 problems;

(b) More accountability for sources of pollution and for the statewill build public trust and improve air quality;

(c) The Colorado department of public health and environment's
air pollution control division should consider more stringent approaches
in the process of conducting dispersion modeling of proposed sources of
increased NOx to better protect residents of disproportionately impacted
communities in the ozone nonattainment area;

(d) Further action needs to be taken to require steady, measurable
emission reductions from upstream oil and gas operations, including
preproduction operations, to ensure the oil and gas industry adequately
contributes to ozone precursor pollution reductions; and

(e) The energy and carbon management commission should
encourage and facilitate the plugging, abandonment, and remediation of
marginal wells to address emissions of ozone precursors from production
activities, especially in disproportionately impacted communities.

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SECTION 2. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 25-7-109, add
 (10)(d) as follows:

3 25-7-109. Commission to promulgate emission control 4 regulations. (10) (d) ON OR BEFORE AUGUST 31, 2026, THE DIVISION 5 SHALL PROPOSE RULES DESIGNED TO REDUCE EMISSIONS OF OXIDES OF 6 NITROGEN (NOX) GENERATED BY UPSTREAM OIL AND GAS OPERATIONS, AS 7 DEFINED BY THE COMMISSION BY RULE, INCLUDING PREPRODUCTION 8 OPERATIONS, BETWEEN MAY 1 AND SEPTEMBER 30 IN THE EIGHT-HOUR 9 OZONE CONTROL AREA AND NORTHERN WELD COUNTY, AS THOSE TERMS 10 ARE DEFINED BY THE COMMISSION BY RULE, BY FIFTY PERCENT BY 2030 11 RELATIVE TO 2017 NOX EMISSION LEVELS. NOX EMISSION LEVELS ARE 12 CHARACTERIZED BY THE MOST RECENT STATE INVENTORY OF NOX 13 EMISSIONS FOR 2017 THAT THE COMMISSION ADOPTED FOR THE PURPOSE 14 OF INCLUSION IN THE STATE IMPLEMENTATION PLAN FOR THE 2015 15 EIGHT-HOUR OZONE NATIONAL AMBIENT AIR QUALITY STANDARD, OR AS 16 PUBLISHED CONCURRENTLY WITH PROPOSED RULES CONSISTENT WITH THIS 17 SUBSECTION (10)(d) IN A NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULE-MAKING PUBLISHED 18 IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 25-7-110(1).

SECTION 3. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 25-7-115, amend
(3)(b)(III) introductory portion and (3)(b)(III)(C); and add
(3)(b)(III)(C.5), (12), and (13) as follows:

22 23

24

25-7-115. Enforcement - civil actions - definitions - reporting - repeal. (3) (b) (III) The order ISSUED IN ACCORDANCE WITH SUBSECTION (3)(b)(I) OF THIS SECTION may:

(C) In addition to civil penalties, include a requirement to perform
 one or more projects to mitigate violations related to excess emissions;
 and

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1 (C.5) IN ADDITION TO CIVIL PENALTIES, INCLUDE A REQUIREMENT 2 TO PERFORM ONE OR MORE PROJECTS TO REDUCE THE POTENTIAL FOR A 3 RECURRENCE OF A VIOLATION FOR WHICH THE DIVISION COMMENCED 4 ENFORCEMENT PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (2)(c)(I) OF THIS SECTION; AND 5 (12) (a) (I) ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 31, 2024, THE DIVISION 6 SHALL PREPARE AN AIR QUALITY ENFORCEMENT BENCHMARK REPORT AND 7 POST THE REPORT ON THE DIVISION'S WEBSITE. THE REPORT MUST COVER 8 THE FEDERAL FISCAL YEARS FROM OCTOBER 1, 2019, THROUGH 9 September 30, 2023, and include the following statewide 10 INFORMATION: 11 (A) THE TOTAL NUMBER OF ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS THAT THE 12 DIVISION COMMENCED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (2)(c)(I) OF THIS 13 SECTION; 14 (B) THE TOTAL NUMBER OF DECISIONS NOT TO IMPOSE A PENALTY 15 FOR AN ENFORCEMENT ACTION THAT THE DIVISION COMMENCED 16 PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (2)(c)(I) OF THIS SECTION; 17 (C) THE TOTAL NUMBER OF ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS THAT THE 18 DIVISION RESOLVED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (3)(b) OF THIS SECTION; 19 AND 20 (D) WITH RESPECT TO CIVIL PENALTIES ASSESSED PURSUANT TO 21 SECTION 25-7-122 (1)(b), THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF CIVIL PENALTIES, THE 22 AVERAGE CIVIL PENALTY, THE MEDIAN CIVIL PENALTY, THE HIGHEST CIVIL 23 PENALTY, AND THE LOWEST CIVIL PENALTY. 24 (II) THIS SUBSECTION (12)(a) IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 25 2025. 26 (b) ON OR BEFORE APRIL 1, 2025, AND ON OR BEFORE FEBRUARY 27 1 OF EACH YEAR THEREAFTER, THE DIVISION SHALL PREPARE AN AIR

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QUALITY ENFORCEMENT REPORT AND POST THE REPORT ON THE DIVISION'S
 WEBSITE. THE FIRST REPORT MUST COVER THE FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR
 STARTING OCTOBER 1, 2023, THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2024, AND EACH
 SUBSEQUENT REPORT MUST COVER THE FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR PERIOD OF
 OCTOBER 1 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30 PRECEDING THE ISSUANCE OF THE
 REPORT. THE REPORTS PREPARED PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION (12)(b)
 MUST INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING STATEWIDE INFORMATION:

8 (I) THE TOTAL NUMBER OF ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS THAT THE 9 DIVISION COMMENCED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (2)(c)(I) OF THIS 10 SECTION;

(II) THE NUMBER OF COMPLAINTS RECEIVED PURSUANT TO
SUBSECTION (2)(a) OF THIS SECTION THAT RESULTED IN AN ENFORCEMENT
ACTION THAT THE DIVISION COMMENCED UNDER SUBSECTION (2)(c)(I) OF
THIS SECTION AND THE IDENTIFYING CASE NUMBER;

(III) THE TOTAL NUMBER OF DECISIONS NOT TO IMPOSE A PENALTY
FOR AN ENFORCEMENT ACTION THAT THE DIVISION COMMENCED
PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (2)(c)(I) OF THIS SECTION;

18 (IV) THE TOTAL NUMBER OF FORMAL ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS
19 THAT THE DIVISION RESOLVED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (3)(b) OF THIS
20 SECTION AND THE TOTAL NUMBER OF ACTIONS THAT INCLUDED
21 VIOLATIONS WITHIN AREAS OF CONCERN, SUCH AS:

(A) THE AREA THAT THE UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL
 PROTECTION AGENCY HAS DESIGNATED AN OZONE NONATTAINMENT AREA;
 AND

25 (B) AN AREA THAT IS IN A DISPROPORTIONATELY IMPACTED26 COMMUNITY; AND

27 (V) WITH RESPECT TO CIVIL PENALTIES ASSESSED PURSUANT TO

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SECTION 25-7-122 (1)(b), THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF CIVIL PENALTIES, THE
 AVERAGE CIVIL PENALTY, THE MEDIAN CIVIL PENALTY, THE HIGHEST CIVIL
 PENALTY, THE LOWEST CIVIL PENALTY, AND THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF CIVIL
 PENALTIES ASSESSED FOR EACH ACTION THAT INCLUDES VIOLATIONS IN
 AREAS OF CONCERN, SUCH AS:

6 (A) THE AREA THAT THE UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL
7 PROTECTION AGENCY HAS DESIGNATED AN OZONE NONATTAINMENT AREA;
8 AND

9 (B) AN AREA THAT IS IN A DISPROPORTIONATELY IMPACTED 10 COMMUNITY.

(13) THE DIVISION SHALL IMPLEMENT AN AIR QUALITY
ENFORCEMENT E-MAIL MAILING GROUP OR A SIMILAR COMMUNICATION
FUNCTION TO SHARE ENFORCEMENT-RELATED UPDATES WITH INTERESTED
PARTIES THAT OPT IN TO THE E-MAIL MAILING GROUP OR SIMILAR
COMMUNICATION FUNCTION. THE DIVISION MAY SHARE INFORMATION
THROUGH THE E-MAIL MAILING GROUP OR SIMILAR COMMUNICATION
FUNCTION THAT INCLUDES:

18 (a) A NOTICE OF VIOLATION OR NONCOMPLIANCE SENT PURSUANT
19 TO SUBSECTION (2)(c)(I) OF THIS SECTION;

20 (b) A SETTLEMENT OR OTHER ORDER ISSUED PURSUANT TO
21 SUBSECTION (3)(b) OF THIS SECTION TO RESOLVE A CASE; AND

(c) A LINK TO THE ANNUAL AIR QUALITY ENFORCEMENT
BENCHMARK REPORT THAT THE DIVISION PREPARES PURSUANT TO
SUBSECTION (12) OF THIS SECTION.

SECTION 4. In Colorado Revised Statutes, amend 25-7-121 as
 follows:

27 **25-7-121.** Injunctions. (1) In the event any person fails to

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1 comply with a final order of the division or the commission that is not 2 subject to stay pending administrative or judicial review or in the event 3 any person violates any emission control regulation of the commission, 4 the requirements of the state implementation plan, or any provision of OR 5 COMMISSION RULE ADOPTED PURSUANT TO parts 1 to 4 of this article 6 ARTICLE 7, including any term or condition contained in any permit 7 required under this article ARTICLE 7, the division or the commission, as 8 the case may be, may request the district attorney for the district in which 9 the alleged violation occurs or the attorney general to bring, and if so 10 requested it is his or her THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OR THE ATTORNEY 11 GENERAL'S duty to bring, a suit for an injunction to: 12 (a) Prevent any further or continued violation; 13 (b) REDUCE THE POTENTIAL FOR A RECURRENCE OF A VIOLATION 14 FOR WHICH THE DIVISION HAS PREVIOUSLY COMMENCED ENFORCEMENT 15 PURSUANT TO SECTION 25-7-115(2)(c)(I); OR 16 (c) OBTAIN ANY PERMIT REQUIRED TO CONSTRUCT OR OPERATE. 17 (2) In any proceedings brought pursuant to this section to enforce 18 an order of the division or the commission, a temporary restraining order 19 or preliminary injunction, if sought, shall not issue if there is probable 20 cause to believe that granting such temporary restraining order or 21 preliminary injunction will cause serious harm to the affected person or 22 any other person and:

- 23 (a) That the alleged violation or activity to which the order
 24 pertains will not continue or be repeated; or
- (b) That granting such temporary restraining order or preliminary
 injunction would be without sufficient corresponding public benefit.
- 27 (3) Notwithstanding any other provision in this section, no action
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for injunction may be taken where the source has obtained a renewable
 operating permit and conducts its operations in compliance with the
 permit terms, as provided in section 25-7-114.4 (3).

4 SECTION 5. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 25-7-122, amend
5 (1)(b) introductory portion, (1)(c), (2)(a)(I), (2)(a)(II), (2)(a)(III),
6 (2)(a)(VIII), (2)(a)(IX), (2)(b) introductory portion, and (2)(b)(IV);
7 repeal (2)(b)(V) and (3); and add (2)(a)(X) as follows:

8 **25-7-122.** Civil penalties - rules - definitions. (1) Upon 9 application of the division, the division may collect penalties as 10 determined under this article 7 by instituting an action in the district court 11 for the district in which the air pollution source affected is located, in 12 accordance with the following provisions:

13 (b) Any person who violates any requirement or prohibition of A 14 FINAL ORDER OF THE DIVISION OR COMMISSION, an applicable emission 15 control regulation of the commission, the state implementation plan, a 16 construction permit, any provision for the prevention of significant 17 deterioration under part 2 of this article 7, any provision related to 18 attainment under part 3 of this article 7, or ANY PROVISION OF OR 19 COMMISSION RULE ADOPTED PURSUANT TO section 25-7-105, 25-7-106, 25-7-106.3, 25-7-108, 25-7-109, **25-7-109.5**, 25-7-111, 25-7-112, 20 21 25-7-113, 25-7-114.2, 25-7-114.5, 25-7-118, 25-7-141, 25-7-206, 22 25-7-403, 25-7-404, 25-7-405, 25-7-407, 42-4-403, 42-4-404, 42-4-405, 23 42-4-406, 42-4-407, 42-4-409, 42-4-410, or 42-4-414 is subject to a civil 24 penalty of not more than forty-seven thousand three hundred fifty-seven 25 dollars per day for each day of the violation; except that:

26 (c) Any person failing to comply with the provisions of section
27 25-7-114.1 shall be subject to a civil penalty of not more than five

| 1 | hundred ONE THOUSAND dollars PER DAY PER VIOLATION. |
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| 2 | (2) (a) In determining the amount of any civil penalty, the division |
| 3 | shall consider the following factors: |
| 4 | (I) The violator's compliance history, $INCLUDING$ THE COMPLIANCE |
| 5 | HISTORY OF THE VIOLATOR'S CORPORATE AFFILIATES, SUBSIDIARIES, AND |
| 6 | PARENT ORGANIZATIONS; |
| 7 | (II) LACK OF good faith efforts on behalf of the violator to |
| 8 | comply; |
| 9 | (III) Payment by the violator of penalties previously assessed for |
| 10 | the same violation WHETHER THE VIOLATOR PREVIOUSLY COMMITTED THE |
| 11 | SAME OR A SIMILAR VIOLATION, REGARDLESS OF WHETHER THE DIVISION |
| 12 | OR COMMISSION COMMENCED AN ENFORCEMENT ACTION PURSUANT TO |
| 13 | SECTION 25-7-115 FOR ANY SUCH VIOLATION; |
| 14 | (VIII) Whether legal and factual theories were advanced for |
| 15 | purposes of delay; and |
| 16 | (IX) The severity of the violation or noncompliance; AND |
| 17 | (X) WHETHER THE VIOLATION OCCURRED WITHIN OR IMPACTED A |
| 18 | DISPROPORTIONATELY IMPACTED COMMUNITY. |
| 19 | (b) In addition to the factors set forth in paragraph (a) of this |
| 20 | subsection (2) SUBSECTION (2)(a) OF THIS SECTION, THE DIVISION SHALL |
| 21 | CONSIDER the following circumstances shall be considered as grounds for |
| 22 | reducing or eliminating civil penalties: |
| 23 | (IV) Substantial economic impact of a penalty on the violator; |
| 24 | AND |
| 25 | (V) Nonfeasance; and |
| 26 | (3) Notwithstanding any other provision in this section, no action |
| 27 | for civil enforcement of this article may be taken where the source has |

obtained a renewable operating permit and conducts its operations in
compliance with the permit terms, as provided in section 25-7-114.4 (3).
SECTION 6. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 25-7-122, amend
(1)(b) introductory portion, (1)(c), (2)(a)(I), (2)(a)(II), (2)(a)(III),
(2)(a)(VIII), (2)(a)(IX), (2)(b) introductory portion, and (2)(b)(IV);
repeal (2)(b)(V) and (3); and add (2)(a)(X) as follows:

7 **25-7-122.** Civil penalties - rules - definitions. (1) Upon 8 application of the division, the division may collect penalties as 9 determined under this article 7 by instituting an action in the district court 10 for the district in which the air pollution source affected is located, in 11 accordance with the following provisions:

12 (b) Any person who violates any requirement or prohibition of A 13 FINAL ORDER OF THE DIVISION OR COMMISSION, an applicable emission 14 control regulation of the commission, the state implementation plan, a 15 construction permit, any provision for the prevention of significant 16 deterioration under part 2 of this article 7, any provision related to 17 attainment under part 3 of this article 7, or ANY PROVISION OF OR 18 COMMISSION RULE ADOPTED PURSUANT TO section 25-7-105, 25-7-106, 19 25-7-106.3, 25-7-108, 25-7-109, 25-7-109.5, 25-7-111, 25-7-112, 25-7-113, 25-7-114.2, 25-7-114.5, 25-7-118, 25-7-141, 25-7-146, 20 21 25-7-206, 25-7-403, 25-7-404, 25-7-405, 25-7-407, 42-4-403, 42-4-404, 22 42-4-405, 42-4-406, 42-4-407, 42-4-409, 42-4-410, or 42-4-414 is subject 23 to a civil penalty of not more than forty-seven thousand three hundred 24 fifty-seven dollars per day for each day of the violation; except that:

(c) Any person failing to comply with the provisions of section
26 25-7-114.1 shall be subject to a civil penalty of not more than five
27 hundred ONE THOUSAND dollars PER DAY PER VIOLATION.

| 1 | (2) (a) In determining the amount of any civil penalty, the division |
|----|---|
| 2 | shall consider the following factors: |
| 3 | (I) The violator's compliance history, INCLUDING THE COMPLIANCE |
| 4 | HISTORY OF THE VIOLATOR'S CORPORATE AFFILIATES, SUBSIDIARIES, AND |
| 5 | PARENT ORGANIZATIONS; |
| 6 | (II) LACK OF good faith efforts on behalf of the violator to |
| 7 | comply; |
| 8 | (III) Payment by the violator of penalties previously assessed for |
| 9 | the same violation WHETHER THE VIOLATOR PREVIOUSLY COMMITTED THE |
| 10 | SAME OR A SIMILAR VIOLATION, REGARDLESS OF WHETHER THE DIVISION |
| 11 | OR COMMISSION COMMENCED AN ENFORCEMENT ACTION PURSUANT TO |
| 12 | SECTION 25-7-115 FOR ANY SUCH VIOLATION; |
| 13 | (VIII) Whether legal and factual theories were advanced for |
| 14 | purposes of delay; and |
| 15 | (IX) The severity of the violation or noncompliance; AND |
| 16 | (X) WHETHER THE VIOLATION OCCURRED WITHIN OR IMPACTED A |
| 17 | DISPROPORTIONATELY IMPACTED COMMUNITY. |
| 18 | (b) In addition to the factors set forth in paragraph (a) of this |
| 19 | subsection (2) SUBSECTION (2)(a) OF THIS SECTION, THE DIVISION SHALL |
| 20 | CONSIDER the following circumstances shall be considered as grounds for |
| 21 | reducing or eliminating civil penalties: |
| 22 | (IV) Substantial economic impact of a penalty on the violator; |
| 23 | AND |
| 24 | (V) Nonfeasance; and |
| 25 | (3) Notwithstanding any other provision in this section, no action |
| 26 | for civil enforcement of this article may be taken where the source has |
| 27 | obtained a renewable operating permit and conducts its operations in |

| 1 | compliance with the permit terms, as provided in section 25-7-114.4 (3). |
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| 2 | SECTION 7. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 34-60-103, add (4.2) |
| 3 | as follows: |
| 4 | 34-60-103. Definitions. As used in this article 60, unless the |
| 5 | context otherwise requires: |
| 6 | (4.2) "DISPROPORTIONATELY IMPACTED COMMUNITY" HAS THE |
| 7 | MEANING SET FORTH IN SECTION $24-4-109(2)(b)(II)$. |
| 8 | SECTION 8. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 34-60-104.5, amend |
| 9 | (2)(d)(I); and add (2)(d)(III) as follows: |
| 10 | 34-60-104.5. Director of commission - duties. (2) The director |
| 11 | of the commission shall: |
| 12 | (d) (I) Appoint, pursuant to section 13 of article XII of the state |
| 13 | constitution, such clerical and professional staff and consultants as may |
| 14 | be necessary for the efficient and effective operation of the commission, |
| 15 | including at least one and up to OR two deputy directors; and |
| 16 | (III) APPOINT AT LEAST TWO COMMUNITY LIAISONS TO SERVE AS |
| 17 | DEDICATED RESOURCES FOR DISPROPORTIONATELY IMPACTED |
| 18 | COMMUNITIES REGARDING COMMISSION REGULATION. THE COMMUNITY |
| 19 | LIAISONS SHALL PERFORM DUTIES INCLUDING: |
| 20 | (A) SERVING AS AN ADVOCATE FOR DISPROPORTIONATELY |
| 21 | IMPACTED COMMUNITIES IN A NONLEGAL CAPACITY AND, WHILE TAKING |
| 22 | INTO CONSIDERATION THE ENGAGEMENT PRACTICES DESCRIBED IN |
| 23 | SECTION 24-4-109 (3)(b), ACTING AS A LIAISON BETWEEN |
| 24 | DISPROPORTIONATELY IMPACTED COMMUNITY MEMBERS AND THE |
| 25 | COMMISSION, INCLUDING WITH RESPECT TO COMMUNICATIONS REGARDING |
| 26 | THE PERMITTING PROCESS; |
| 27 | (B) PROVIDING COMMUNITY MEMBERS WITH RELEVANT |

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1 INFORMATION REGARDING THIRD-PARTY RESOURCES SUCH AS LEGAL 2 ASSISTANCE TO ASSIST COMMUNITY MEMBERS IN PRESENTING THEIR VIEWS 3 TO THE COMMISSION; 4 (C) WORKING TO IMPROVE THE RELATIONSHIPS AND INTERACTIONS 5 BETWEEN DISPROPORTIONATELY IMPACTED COMMUNITIES AND THE 6 COMMISSION; 7 (D) ACTING AS A RESOURCE FOR SHARING INFORMATION BETWEEN 8 THE COMMISSION AND DISPROPORTIONATELY IMPACTED COMMUNITIES; 9 (E) ENGAGING IN OUTREACH TO DISPROPORTIONATELY IMPACTED 10 COMMUNITIES; AND 11 (F) ORGANIZING AND ATTENDING IN-PERSON MEETINGS WITHIN 12 DISPROPORTIONATELY IMPACTED COMMUNITIES.

SECTION 9. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 34-60-106, amend
(1)(f)(I)(B), (3), and (11)(c)(I); and add (1)(f)(I.5), (11)(c)(III), and (20.5)
as follows:

34-60-106. Additional powers of commission - rules definitions - repeal. (1) The commission also shall require:

(f) (I) That no operations for the drilling of a well for oil and gasshall be commenced without first:

20 (B) Obtaining a permit from the commission, under rules
21 prescribed by the commission; and

(I.5) THAT OIL AND GAS OPERATIONS SHALL NOT OCCUR WITHOUT
THE OPERATOR OBTAINING AND MAINTAINING ANY NECESSARY PERMITS
AND A LICENSE TO CONDUCT OIL AND GAS OPERATIONS FROM THE
COMMISSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH RULES PROMULGATED BY THE
COMMISSION; AND

27 (3) The commission also has the authority to:

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1 (a) Limit the production of oil or gas, or both, from any pool or 2 field for the prevention of waste, and to limit and to allocate the 3 production from such pool or field among or between tracts of land 4 having separate ownerships therein IN THE TRACTS OF LAND, on a fair and 5 equitable basis so that each such tract will be permitted to produce no 6 more than its just and equitable share from the pool and so as to prevent, 7 insofar as is practicable, reasonably avoidable drainage from each such 8 tract which THAT is not equalized by counter-drainage; and

9 (b) Classify wells as oil or gas wells for purposes material to the
10 interpretation or enforcement of this article ARTICLE 60;

(c) AFTER CONSULTATION WITH THE DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATION
IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT, REQUIRE
OPERATORS TO TAKE SUCH ACTIONS BETWEEN MAY 1 AND SEPTEMBER 30
OF EACH YEAR TO REDUCE EMISSIONS OF OXIDES OF NITROGEN (NOX)
GENERATED FROM PRODUCTION AND PREPRODUCTION OPERATIONS AS THE
COMMISSION DEEMS APPROPRIATE TO ASSURE COMPLIANCE WITH:

17

(I) NOX INTENSITY TARGETS; AND

(II) OTHER NOX RULES THAT THE AIR QUALITY CONTROL
COMMISSION ADOPTS BY RULE TO ACHIEVE SECTOR-WIDE COMPLIANCE
WITH THE STATE'S 2030 GOALS FOR NOX EMISSION REDUCTIONS; AND

(d) WHEN REQUIRING OPERATORS TO TAKE ACTION PURSUANT TO
subsection (3)(c) of this section, prioritize actions by those
operators that do not demonstrate compliance with any
applicable NOX intensity targets or other NOX rules that the
air quality control commission adopts to achieve sector-wide
compliance with the state's 2030 goals for NOX emission
REDUCTIONS.

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(11) (c) The commission shall adopt rules that:

(I) Adopt an alternative location analysis process and specify
criteria used to identify oil and gas locations and facilities proposed to be
located near populated areas that will be subject to the alternative location
analysis process; and

6 (III) IN CONSULTATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH 7 AND ENVIRONMENT, REQUIRE ENHANCED SYSTEMS AND PRACTICES TO 8 AVOID, MINIMIZE, AND MITIGATE EMISSIONS OF OZONE PRECURSORS FROM 9 OPERATIONS AT NEWLY PERMITTED OIL AND GAS LOCATIONS IN THE 10 EIGHT-HOUR OZONE CONTROL AREA AND NORTHERN WELD COUNTY, AS 11 THOSE TERMS ARE DEFINED BY THE AIR QUALITY CONTROL COMMISSION BY 12 RULE. IN ADOPTING THE RULES PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION 13 (11)(c)(III), THE COMMISSION SHALL:

(A) BY SEPTEMBER 30, 2024, ADOPT AN INITIAL LIST OF ENHANCED
SYSTEMS AND PRACTICES CONSIDERING THE BEST MANAGEMENT
PRACTICES THAT HAVE BEEN RECOMMENDED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF
PUBLIC HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT IN CONSULTATION WITH OPERATORS;
(B) CONSIDER A PROPOSED OIL AND GAS LOCATION'S POTENTIAL
TO CONTRIBUTE TO ADVERSE IMPACTS THROUGH EMISSIONS OF OZONE
PRECURSORS;

21 (C) CONSIDER ANY AVAILABLE PHOTOCHEMICAL SENSITIVITY
22 MODELING ANALYSES CONDUCTED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC
23 HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT; AND

(D) EVALUATE THE POTENTIAL FOR UPDATES TO THE REQUIRED
ENHANCED SYSTEMS AND PRACTICES PERIODICALLY TO ACCOUNT FOR
EVOLVING DESIGN, OPERATIONAL PROCEDURES, AND TECHNOLOGIES TO
REDUCE OZONE PRECURSORS.

(20.5) THE COMMISSION SHALL ADMINISTER THIS ARTICLE 60 IN A
 MANNER TO MINIMIZE ADVERSE IMPACTS TO DISPROPORTIONATELY
 IMPACTED COMMUNITIES THAT ARE NEGATIVELY AFFECTED BY OIL AND
 GAS OPERATIONS.

5 SECTION 10. In Colorado Revised Statutes, amend 34-60-111
6 as follows:

34-60-111. Judicial review. (1) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN
SUBSECTION (2) OF THIS SECTION, any rule, regulation, or final order of the
commission shall be IS subject to judicial review in accordance with the
provisions of section 24-4-106. C.R.S. The commission shall IS not be
required to post bond in any proceeding for judicial review.

12 (2) NOTWITHSTANDING SECTION 24-4-106 (5), A COURT OF
13 COMPETENT JURISDICTION MAY POSTPONE THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF A
14 COMMISSION ORDER SUSPENDING OR REVOKING AN OPERATOR'S LICENSE
15 TO CONDUCT OIL AND GAS OPERATIONS OR A CERTIFICATE OF CLEARANCE
16 AND SUBJECT TO REVIEW AS A FINAL AGENCY ACTION PURSUANT TO
17 SECTION 24-4-106 ONLY UPON A DEMONSTRATION BY THE MOVING PARTY
18 THAT:

19 (a) THE MOVING PARTY HAS A REASONABLE PROBABILITY OF
 20 SUCCESS ON THE MERITS IN THE UNDERLYING JUDICIAL PROCEEDING;

21 (b) REAL, IMMEDIATE, AND IRREPARABLE INJURY TO THE MOVING
22 PARTY WOULD OTHERWISE RESULT;

23 (c) POSTPONING THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THE COMMISSION ORDER
24 WILL NOT DISSERVE THE PUBLIC INTEREST; AND

25 (d) IN CONSIDERATION OF THE BALANCE OF EQUITIES, INCLUDING
26 CONSIDERATION OF POTENTIAL ADVERSE IMPACTS ON PUBLIC HEALTH,
27 SAFETY, AND WELFARE AND THE PROTECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND

WILDLIFE RESOURCES, THE BALANCE FAVORS THE POSTPONEMENT.

1

2 SECTION 11. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 34-60-121, amend
3 (5)(a), (6), and (7) as follows:

4 34-60-121. Violations - investigations - penalties - rules -5 definition - legislative declaration. (5) (a) If an operator fails to take 6 corrective action required pursuant to subsection (4) of this section, or 7 whenever the commission or the director has evidence that a violation of 8 any provision of this article ARTICLE 60, or of any rule, regulation, or 9 order of the commission, or of any permit has occurred, under 10 circumstances deemed to constitute an emergency situation OR UNDER 11 CIRCUMSTANCES THAT CAUSE OR THREATEN TO CAUSE A SIGNIFICANT 12 ADVERSE IMPACT TO PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY, WELFARE, THE 13 ENVIRONMENT, OR WILDLIFE RESOURCES THAT REQUIRE IMMEDIATE 14 ACTION, the commission or the director may issue a cease-and-desist 15 order to the operator whose act or omission allegedly resulted in such THE 16 violation. Such THE cease-and-desist order shall MUST require such action 17 by the operator as the commission or director deems appropriate. The 18 order shall be served personally or by certified mail, return receipt 19 requested, to the operator or the operator's agent for service of process 20 and shall MUST state the provision alleged to have been violated, the facts 21 alleged to constitute the violation, the time by which the acts or practices 22 cited are required to cease, and any corrective action the commission or 23 the director elects to require of the operator.

(6) If the commission determines, after a hearing conducted in
accordance with section 34-60-108, that an operator has failed to perform
any corrective action imposed under subsection (4) of this section or
failed to comply with a cease-and-desist order issued under subsection (5)

1 of this section, with regard to a violation of a permit provision, the 2 commission may issue an order suspending, modifying, or revoking such 3 THE OPERATOR'S permit OR PERMITS OR SUSPENDING OR REVOKING THE 4 OPERATOR'S LICENSE TO CONDUCT OIL AND GAS OPERATIONS or may take 5 other appropriate action. An operator subject to an order that suspends, 6 modifies, or revokes a permit OR THAT SUSPENDS OR REVOKES THE 7 OPERATOR'S LICENSE TO CONDUCT OIL AND GAS OPERATIONS shall 8 continue the affected operations only for the purpose of bringing them 9 into compliance with the permit or modified permit and shall do so under 10 the supervision of the commission. Once the affected operations are in 11 compliance to the satisfaction of the commission and any penalty not 12 subject to judicial review or appeal has been paid, the commission shall 13 MAY reinstate the permit OR THE LICENSE TO CONDUCT OIL AND GAS 14 OPERATIONS.

(7) (a) The commission or the director shall issue an order to an
operator to appear for a hearing before the commission in accordance
with section 34-60-108 whenever the commission or the director has
evidence that an operator is responsible for:

(I) Gross negligence or knowing and willful misconduct that
results in an egregious violation; or

- 21 (II) A pattern of violation of this article ARTICLE 60, any rule or
 22 order of the commission, or any permit;
 - (III) A VIOLATION OF THIS ARTICLE 60, ANY RULE OR ORDER OF
 THE COMMISSION, OR ANY PERMIT, IF SUCH VIOLATION RESULTS IN A
 COMMISSION ORDER IMPOSING A PENALTY OF ONE MILLION DOLLARS OR
 MORE;

27 (IV) A VIOLATION THAT CAUSED A MAJOR ADVERSE IMPACT, AS

DEFINED IN THE COMMISSION'S RULES, TO PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY,
 WELFARE, THE ENVIRONMENT, OR WILDLIFE RESOURCES AND THE
 VIOLATION IS THE THIRD VIOLATION IN THE STATE IN ONE YEAR THAT
 CAUSED A MAJOR ADVERSE IMPACT, AS DEFINED IN THE COMMISSION'S
 RULES, TO PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY, WELFARE, THE ENVIRONMENT, OR
 WILDLIFE RESOURCES; OR

7 (V) A VIOLATION THAT CAUSED DEATH OR SERIOUS BODILY INJURY
8 TO AN INDIVIDUAL.

9 (b) If the commission finds, after such THE hearing CONDUCTED 10 PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (7)(a) OF THIS SECTION, that the operator is 11 responsible under the legal standards specified in paragraph (a) of this 12 subsection (7), it SUBSECTION (7)(a) OF THIS SECTION, THE COMMISSION 13 may issue an order that prohibits the issuance of any new permits to the 14 operator, suspends any or all of the operator's certificates of clearance, 15 SUSPENDS THE OPERATOR'S LICENSE TO CONDUCT OIL AND GAS 16 OPERATIONS, or both. When ANY COMBINATION OF THE THREE. IF the 17 operator demonstrates to the satisfaction of the commission that it THE 18 OPERATOR has brought each of the violations into compliance and that 19 any penalty not subject to judicial review or appeal has been paid, the 20 commission may vacate the order.

(c) IN A HEARING CONDUCTED PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION (7),
THE COMMISSION MAY CONSIDER AS EVIDENCE VIOLATIONS FOR WHICH
ENFORCEMENT WAS COMMENCED PRIOR TO THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS
SUBSECTION (7), AS AMENDED, IN DETERMINING WHETHER TO PROHIBIT
THE ISSUANCE OF ANY NEW PERMITS TO THE OPERATOR, SUSPEND ANY OR
ALL OF THE OPERATOR'S CERTIFICATES OF CLEARANCE, SUSPEND THE
OPERATOR'S LICENSE TO CONDUCT OIL AND GAS OPERATIONS, OR ANY

1 COMBINATION OF THE THREE.

2 SECTION 12. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 34-60-124, amend 3 (4)(e)(II) and (4)(f); and add (4)(g) as follows: 4 34-60-124. Energy and carbon management cash fund -5 **definitions - repeal.** (4) The fund may be expended: 6 (e) (II) This subsection (4)(e) is repealed, effective July 1, 2025. 7 and 8 To create and maintain the website described in section (f)9 34-60-106 (22); AND 10 (g) BY THE COMMISSION TO FUND THE COMMUNITY LIAISON 11 POSITIONS APPOINTED PURSUANT TO SECTION 34-60-104.5 (2)(d)(III). 12 SECTION 13. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 34-60-133, amend 13 (1)(a)(II) and (1)(a)(III); and **add** (1.5), (2)(e.5), (6)(d)(I.5), and (8)(d.5)14 as follows: 15 34-60-133. Orphaned wells mitigation enterprise - creation -16 powers and duties - enterprise board created - mitigation fees - cash 17 fund created - rules - definitions - legislative declaration. 18 (1) Enterprise created. (a) The orphaned wells mitigation enterprise is 19 created in the department for the purpose of: 20 (II)Funding the plugging, reclaiming, and remediating of 21 orphaned wells AND MARGINAL WELLS in the state; 22 (III) Ensuring that the costs associated with plugging, reclaiming, 23 and remediating orphaned wells AND MARGINAL WELLS are borne by operators in the form of mitigation fees; and 24 25 (1.5) **Legislative declaration.** The GENERAL ASSEMBLY FINDS 26 AND DECLARES THAT: 27 (a) ORPHANED WELLS AND MARGINAL WELLS PRESENT RISKS TO

PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY, AND WELFARE, INCLUDING RISKS TO THE
 ENVIRONMENT AND WILDLIFE RESOURCES;

3 (b) ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE IS A PRIORITY FOR THE STATE, AND
4 THE ENTERPRISE BOARD SHOULD ADMINISTER THIS SECTION IN A MANNER
5 THAT REDUCES BURDENS ON OVERBURDENED COMMUNITIES;

6 (c) THE ENTERPRISE HELPS MITIGATE RISKS BY PLUGGING,
7 RECLAIMING, AND REMEDIATING ORPHANED WELLS AND THOSE MARGINAL
8 WELLS THAT ARE AT THE HIGHEST RISK OF BECOMING ORPHANED;

9 (d) ALL OIL AND GAS WELLS WILL REQUIRE PLUGGING AND
10 RECLAIMING AT THE END OF THEIR USEFUL LIFE;

11 (e) MANY OIL AND GAS WELLS WILL REQUIRE REMEDIATION AT THE
12 END OF THEIR USEFUL LIFE;

(f) PURSUANT TO SECTION 34-60-106, ALL OPERATORS ARE
REQUIRED TO PROVIDE FINANCIAL ASSURANCE DEMONSTRATING THAT THE
OPERATORS ARE FINANCIALLY CAPABLE OF FULFILLING EVERY OBLIGATION
IMPOSED ON THE OPERATOR PURSUANT TO THIS ARTICLE 60, INCLUDING AN
OPERATOR'S PLUGGING, RECLAMATION, AND REMEDIATION OBLIGATIONS;
AND

19 (g) THE SERVICES THAT THE ENTERPRISE PROVIDES BENEFIT ALL
20 OPERATORS IN THE STATE BY:

21 (I) MITIGATING THE RISKS OF AN OPERATOR'S OIL AND GAS WELL
22 BECOMING AN ORPHANED WELL; AND

(II) PLUGGING, RECLAIMING, AND REMEDIATING QUALIFYING
MARGINAL WELLS AND ELIMINATING THE RISK OF SUCH QUALIFYING
MARGINAL WELLS BECOMING ORPHANED WELLS.

26 (2) Powers and duties. In addition to any other powers and duties
27 specified in this section, the enterprise board has the following general

1 powers and duties on behalf of the enterprise:

2 TO ISSUE GUIDANCE ESTABLISHING STANDARDS FOR (e.5)3 MARGINAL WELLS TO QUALIFY FOR FUNDING PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION 4 (1)(a)(II) OF THIS SECTION. IN ESTABLISHING THESE STANDARDS, THE 5 ENTERPRISE BOARD SHALL CONSIDER: 6 **(I)** AN OIL AND GAS WELL'S LOCATION IN OR NEAR A 7 DISPROPORTIONATELY IMPACTED COMMUNITY OR A HIGHLY POPULATED 8 AREA; AND 9 (II) AN OIL AND GAS WELL'S RISK OF ADVERSE IMPACTS ON PUBLIC 10 HEALTH, SAFETY, WELFARE, THE ENVIRONMENT, AND WILDLIFE 11 RESOURCES; AND 12 (6) **Cash fund.** (d) Money credited to the fund is continuously 13 appropriated to the fund for use by the enterprise and shall be expended 14 to: 15 (I.5) PLUG, RECLAIM, AND REMEDIATE QUALIFYING MARGINAL 16 WELLS, AS DETERMINED BASED ON FACTORS THAT INCLUDE: 17 (A) THE OIL AND GAS WELL'S LOCATION IN OR NEAR A 18 DISPROPORTIONATELY IMPACTED COMMUNITY OR A HIGHLY POPULATED 19 AREA; AND 20 (B) THE OIL AND GAS WELL'S RISK OF ADVERSE IMPACTS ON PUBLIC 21 HEALTH, SAFETY, WELFARE, THE ENVIRONMENT, AND WILDLIFE 22 RESOURCES; 23 (8) **Definitions.** As used in this section, unless the context 24 otherwise requires: 25 (d.5) "MARGINAL WELL" MEANS AN OIL AND GAS WELL THAT 26 PRESENTS A HIGH RISK OF BECOMING ORPHANED. 27 **SECTION 14.** Appropriation. (1) For the 2024-25 state fiscal

| 1 | year, \$492,928 is appropriated to the department of public health and |
|----|---|
| 2 | environment. This appropriation is from the general fund. To implement |
| 3 | this act, the department may use this appropriation as follows: |
| 4 | (a) \$75,846 for use by the air pollution control division for |
| 5 | personal services related to stationary sources, which amount is based on |
| 6 | an assumption that the division will require an additional 0.8 FTE; |
| 7 | (b) \$301,864 for use by the air pollution control division for |
| 8 | operating expenses related to stationary sources; and |
| 9 | (c) \$115,218 for the purchase of legal services. |
| 10 | (2) For the 2024-25 state fiscal year, \$115,218 is appropriated to |
| 11 | the department of law. This appropriation is from reappropriated funds |
| 12 | received from the department of public health and environment under |
| 13 | subsection (1)(c) of this section and is based on an assumption that the |
| 14 | department of law will require an additional 0.5 FTE. To implement this |
| 15 | act, the department of law may use this appropriation to provide legal |
| 16 | services for the department of public health and environment. |
| 17 | (3) For the 2024-25 state fiscal year, \$179,127 is appropriated to |
| 18 | the department of natural resources for use by the energy and carbon |
| 19 | management commission. This appropriation is from the energy and |
| 20 | carbon management cash fund created in section 34-60-122 (5)(a), |
| 21 | C.R.S., and is based on an assumption that the commission will require |
| 22 | an additional 2.0 FTE. To implement this act, the commission may use |
| 23 | this appropriation for program costs. |
| 24 | SECTION <u>15.</u> Effective date - applicability. (1) (a) Except as |
| 25 | otherwise provided in this subsection (1), this act takes effect upon |
| 26 | passage. |
| 27 | (b) Section 6 of this act takes effect only if House Bill 24-1338 |

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becomes law, in which case section 6 of this act takes effect upon
 passage.

3 (c) Section 5 of this act takes effect only if House Bill 24-1338
4 does not become law, in which case section 5 of this act takes effect upon
5 passage.

6 (2) This act applies to enforcement actions commenced by the 7 division of administration in the department of public health and 8 environment and the energy and carbon management commission on or 9 after the effective date of this act.

10 SECTION <u>16.</u> Safety clause. The general assembly finds, 11 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate 12 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety or for appropriations for 13 the support and maintenance of the departments of the state and state 14 institutions.

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