

Good afternoon.

I am Angie Binder, executive director of the Colorado Petroleum Association. CPA is a longstanding advocate in legislative and regulatory matters on behalf of petroleum refiners, exploration and production companies, pipeline, and transportation interests that are critical to bringing energy products to consumers.

The refining and manufacturing sectors represent over 11,500 jobs in Colorado with an estimated \$2.8 billion contribution to Colorado's economy.

Thank you for this opportunity to address House Bill 1189 that requires the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment to regulate the emissions of air toxics by certain sources.

CPA members support air monitoring and data collection and many conduct fence line monitoring. I appreciate the sponsor meeting with stakeholders on numerous occasions so that we may better understand her goals and objectives for this bill. We believe the bill should be amended to better achieve these goals and objectives.

I understand there may be amendments offered today, but because I have not yet seen those, my comments are on the current bill.

Specifically, the bill should be amended to limit the air monitoring to "Air Toxics." As currently written, it goes well beyond the title and would expand monitoring to other undefined pollutants.

The bill confuses air monitoring for public health purpose with monitoring for permit compliance which CDPHE already has broad statutory enforcement authority for permit violations. Section 6 is not necessary and is duplicative.

The bill requires fence line monitoring to be incorporated into a federal permit, which imposes a “state only” monitoring requirement. Incorporating this requirement in a federal Title V permit eliminates flexibility.

CPA believes that Community Monitoring is best governed by the Air Enterprise Board, that was created in SB 20-204. The Board was established for this purpose, to provide science-based, unbiased air quality monitoring. Covered facilities will be paying fees to fund the activities of the Air Enterprise Board and we believe community monitoring is much more equitable as it will detect emissions from sources beyond just covered facilities.

Finally, the bill as written in Section 3 cedes legislative authority to the Air Quality Control Commission. These major policy determinations should be voted upon by those directly elected by the people.

Finally, just a few thoughts about the refining industry.

Refinery is not a four-letter word – it is the engine that drives the Colorado economy from highway improvements, to national and international travel, to street level commerce, to the women and men who go to work each day.

Everyone in this room relies upon energy.

Colorado is part of the Rocky Mountain gasoline supply infrastructure, a region which is relatively isolated in terms of supply sources compared to other regions. We have a limited number of refineries, with limited capacity of product pipelines that supply this market. The current pipeline system supplying the market operates at a very high utilization rate, especially during the summer nonattainment, peak gasoline demand season.

Any changes to this complex, interwoven system threaten the state's limited fuel supply. Colorado already experiences supply disruptions if just one provider reduces output. Additional rules and regulations should always take into consideration the larger regulatory burden and economic impacts.

HB 1189 provides air monitoring and data collection. But in order to achieve the goals and objectives of the sponsor, we suggest the committee consider amendments, so that it will achieve the desired public health outcomes.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide this testimony.

March 24, 2021

Dear Chair Alex Valdez, and members of the House Committee on Energy and Environment,

I am writing to express my support for House Bill 1189 relating to air toxics.

I am a Colorado Field Organizer for Moms Clean Air Force where our mission is to protect children from air pollution and climate change. We envision a safe, stable, and equitable future where all children breathe clean air.

We are concerned for the residents, including members of Moms Clean Air Force Colorado Chapter, who are raising their families near facilities that emit high levels of air toxics including the ones covered by this bill which are hydrogen cyanide (HCN), hydrogen sulfide (H<sub>2</sub>S), and benzene. These facilities release toxic air emissions which can cause serious health impacts for community members, especially for those who live close or spend time nearby. Unfortunately, those most impacted are often communities of color and low-income families who disproportionately face the cumulative impacts of multiple pollution sources.

We have joined listening sessions and public comment opportunities at the Air Quality Control Commission (AQCC) related to the Suncor Title V permit, and we have raised concerns about HCN which is a hazardous air pollutant that currently has no established allowable limit and is not currently monitored. In order to protect communities living nearby, we urgently need collection of accurate and comprehensive data for the state to utilize to enact meaningful protections.

Fenceline monitoring is a critical component in understanding the pollution impacting nearby residents at any facility, anytime our government allows significant pollution sources near communities. However, air quality monitoring is only as good as the technology that is deployed. Consideration must be given to the distance between monitors since plumes are transient; the accuracy and sensitivity of the technology to be deployed; the frequency of measurements; the chemicals to be monitored; and how the data will be shared with the community. Additional challenges include establishing truly safe limits of toxic chemicals, and also consideration for the resultant cocktail of chemicals when communities are exposed to multiple chemicals in combination with particulate matter, high ground level ozone, or other complicating factors. Effective monitoring would cover daily operations, as well as upset conditions, unintentional leaks, and emergency situations with real-time alerts to the impacted community.

The residents of Commerce City have suffered the burden of air pollution from the Suncor Refinery that has put their health at risk for decades. These residents do not just want to know what is in their air, but rather they need clean air to breathe. We must begin to correct the injustice of the past by establishing penalties that result in avoidance of chemical releases, rather than just payment of a fine to continue to pollute; moving from fines for violations to actual shutdowns until repairs are made; and establishing safe limits of the cocktail of chemicals.

We appreciate the commitment to ensure engagement with the impacted communities as monitoring plans are developed including accessible meetings, translation services, and ample opportunity for public comment.

We realize this bill will not immediately solve all of the concerns related to air toxic pollution for these impacted communities, but this bill will begin the much needed work of better understanding the pollution and how to address it for the protection of public health, safety, and the environment.

Thank you for your consideration,

Laurie Anderson  
Field Organizer, Moms Clean Air Force Colorado Chapter



## Supporting Testimony for HB21-1189

Concerning additional public health protections in relation to the emission of air toxics

GRID Alternatives Colorado  
1120 W 12th Ave  
Denver, Colorado 80204

Dear Legislators and Committee members,

Thank you for your leadership during this difficult time.

My name is Adrienne Dorsey. I am respectfully submitting testimony **in support of HB21-1189** on behalf of GRID Alternatives Colorado ("GRID"). GRID is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization whose mission is to make the benefits of renewable energy technology, clean mobility and job training accessible to low-income and underserved communities. GRID advocates for equity, access and inclusion in state renewable energy, environmental and climate policies, aiming to ensure that Colorado's communities who are disproportionately impacted by environmental pollution are prioritized in capturing the tangible benefits of our state's transition to clean energy, including jobs, economic opportunity, and healthier communities.

Toxic air pollutants from industrial activities can cause serious health impacts, including high rates of respiratory complications, heart disease, and certain cancers. Amid the COVID-19 pandemic, neighborhoods that have fought decades of exposure to dangerous pollutants – many of which are lower-income, black, and Latinx – are showing higher incidences of coronavirus infection, complications, and fatality. **Passing this legislation will help ensure that all Coloradans enjoy healthy and safe air quality and defend our most vulnerable communities from dangerous air pollution.**

We urge the passage of this bill.

Adrienne Dorsey

Executive Director, GRID Alternatives Colorado

[adorsey@gridalternatives.org](mailto:adorsey@gridalternatives.org)



*Via Email Submission to Remote Testimony Portal*

Representative Alex Valdez, Chair  
House Energy and Environment Committee  
Colorado General Assembly  
200 East Colfax Avenue  
HCR 0112  
Denver, CO 80203

**RE: Vote YES on HB21-1189 (Regulate Air Toxics Emissions for Public Health)**

March 24, 2021

Dear Chair Valdez and House Energy and Environment Committee Members:

On behalf of the National Parks Conservation Association (NPCA) and our more than one million members and supporters nationwide, including nearly eleven thousand in Colorado, I write to express strong support for HB21-1189, a bill critical toward providing public health protections in relation to the air toxics—hydrogen sulfide, hydrogen cyanide, and benzene—emitted from some of the biggest industrial polluters in Colorado (refineries Suncor and Phillips 66 Terminal in Commerce City, Sinclair Terminal in Henderson, and Goodrich Carbon in Pueblo).

NPCA applauds your leadership on this bill.

Since 1919, NPCA has been the leading voice in protecting and enhancing our National Park System for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations. While NPCA cares deeply about our nation's treasured natural areas, we also care deeply about the health and welfare of communities surrounding them. Strengthening regulation of air toxics emissions in Colorado is not only long overdue, but it will also have significant positive impacts on public health and climate justice.

We urge your committee to pass HB21-1189 because HB21-1189 finally puts community first—especially low income and communities of color—and because we believe that healthy lands and healthy people go hand in hand.

Colorado suffers from a serious and growing air pollution crisis—including but not limited to regional haze and ozone—which is at odds with the Clean Air Act's visibility protection mandate and the Colorado Air Pollution Control Act, threatening the lives of Coloradans and our national parks. While most air pollution doesn't originate in national parks, it can travel hundreds of miles from its source, affecting even remote parks and surrounding communities. Examining the park landscape alone, analysis from the National Park Service and the Environmental Protection Agency shows Colorado's already severely compromised air quality is

worsening. Analysis by NPCA in 2019 showed that 96 percent of our country's national parks are plagued by significant air pollution problems and that parks all over Colorado struggle with the effects of climate change, unhealthy air, and harm to nature.

Our state's air pollution crisis also shows a significant impact on the health and welfare of low income and communities of color who disproportionately live near from oil and gas refineries, gas wells and other products of industry polluters. Thirty-five percent of the metro area is non-white and fifteen percent of this total population reports having adult asthma, COPD, lung cancer or other cardiovascular disease.<sup>1</sup> The COVID-19 crisis continues to exacerbate this life-threatening vulnerability, as marginalized communities continue to bear the brunt of air pollution and have had the highest COVID-19 infection rates during the pandemic.

Communities specifically within the 80216-zip code know the outcomes of pollution well. Due to historic environmental racism and lack of oversight, these communities have disproportionately faced the cumulative impacts of living in a pollution hot spot. With its close proximity to the Suncor oil and gas refinery, this zip code has the dubious distinction of being referred to as the most polluted and environmentally hazardous zip code in all of America. A 2014 report by the city of Denver found that residents in this area experienced chronic conditions like heart and lung disease at higher rates than other parts of town.

By ensuring active community engagement as monitoring plans are developed by the four refineries at issue—including ensuring accessible meetings, translation services, publicly available reporting, and ample opportunity for public comment—and by requiring facilities to directly fund community-based air toxics monitoring, HB21-1189 creates a vital path forward where industry is held accountable for the impacts of air toxins released by refinery operations and where people are empowered with the necessary information to take action for their health and welfare.

Colorado is at a crossroads in protecting its people, lands, and climate from air pollution. We cannot afford another delay, and we cannot afford to allow corporate polluters to carry on business as usual, profiting at the expense of people and without accountability.

NPCA urges the committee to pass HB21-1189.

Sincerely,



Tracy Coppola  
Colorado Program Manager

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<sup>1</sup> American Lung Association. (2020) State of the Air. <http://www.stateoftheair.org/assets/SOTA-2020.pdf>.



Thursday, March 25, 2021

Colorado General Assembly  
House Energy & Environment Committee  
Rep. Alex Valdez, Chair  
Rep. Edie Hooton, Vice Chair

**Re: Support for HB21-1189 – Regulate Air Toxics**

Chairman Alex Valdez, Vice Chairwoman Edie Hooton, and members of the committee:

My name is Maria Nájera and I am the government affairs director at Western Resource Advocates (WRA), a regional conservation non-profit working to protect the West's land, air, and water. On behalf of WRA, I am writing in support of [HB21-1189 – Regulate Air Toxics](#).

Clean air is vital to our health, economic prosperity, and the environment. Unfortunately, numerous communities across Colorado are exposed to air that contains toxic pollutants. Factories and large industrial facilities located near people's homes and workplaces emit chemicals that we know threaten public health. Those most impacted by harmful air toxics include workers, communities of color, and low-income communities. Due to historic environmental racism and lack of oversight, communities of color and low-income communities have disproportionately faced the cumulative impacts of living in pollution hot spots.

HB21-1189 is an important first step to improve air quality for Coloradans. It establishes common-sense monitoring and tracking oversight of industrial facilities that emit toxic pollutants. Specifically, the bill would:

- Require real-time fence-line monitoring of air toxics, which is a critical tool to quickly identify leaks and enable facilities to promptly address fugitive emissions;
- Improve transparency by requiring that monitoring data be available to the public;
- Require community-based air toxics monitoring in areas where people gather to better understand the cumulative health impacts of exposure to the "chemical cocktails" coming from multiple emissions sources that individuals face in their schools, workplaces, home, and public spaces;
- Ensure community engagement as monitoring plans are developed, ensuring accessible meetings, translation services, and ample opportunity for public comment;
- Require that facilities fund fence-line and community-based monitoring. Since facilities bear responsibility for toxic air emissions, they should also bear responsibility for the costs of monitoring.

Long-term exposure to harmful air pollutants has serious health consequences (causing strokes, heart

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Suite 100  
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Colorado - Boulder  
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Suite 210  
Denver, CO 80202

Nevada  
550 W. Musser Street  
Suite G  
Carson City, NV 89703

New Mexico  
409 E. Palace Avenue  
Unit 2  
Santa Fe, NM 87501

Utah  
307 West 200 South  
Suite 2000  
Salt Lake City, UT 84101

attacks, cancer, chronic lung disease, respiratory arrest, severe burns and pain, seizures, pulmonary edema, and asthma complications and adversely impacting brain development and cognition) and has been found to increase the risk of COVID-19 mortality. It is more important than ever to ensure all Coloradans have access to information on the air pollution that impacts their health and safety and that arms them with data to hold polluters and their government accountable.

WRA urges you to vote yes on HB21-1189.

Sincerely,



Maria Nájera  
Government Affairs Director  
[Western Resource Advocates](#)  
2260 Baseline Road, Suite 200  
Boulder CO 80302-7740  
505-459-9233 (c)  
[maria.najera@westernresources.org](mailto:maria.najera@westernresources.org)



March 23, 2021

House Energy & Environment Committee  
Colorado General Assembly  
200 E. Colfax Avenue  
Denver, CO 80203

Re: HB21-1189 – Regulate Air Toxics

Dear Members of the House Energy & Environment Committee:

My name is Ann Sutton, living in Westminster CO. This testimony represents the position of the League of Women Voters of Colorado on the bill to require active air monitoring facilities that are known sources of air pollutants and are permitted to release air toxics under thresholds specified by their permit(s).

The League supports ensuring air quality by regulation and reduction of pollution from stationary sources and of ambient toxic air pollution and, further, supports inclusion for success in policy-making by engaging individuals, households, and communities.

We support consideration by AQCC for expanding the kinds of Hazardous Air Pollutants that are to be evaluated under the permitting process for facilities according to current data submitted to the EPA in the annual Toxic Release Inventory. It would appear that facilities involved in refining petroleum or in storage or distribution of petroleum products are likely to be responsible for emitting xylene, toluene, and/or propylene as well as benzene that is currently regulated. Examples are provided here with approximately 10-years' of data:

TRI report <https://enviro.epa.gov/facts/tri/ef-facilities/#/Release/80022CNCDN5801B>

TRI report <https://enviro.epa.gov/facts/tri/ef-facilities/#/Release/80022PHLLP3960E>

TRI report [https://enviro.epa.gov/facts/tri/ef-facilities/#/Relea\\_1550se/80640SNCLR8581E](https://enviro.epa.gov/facts/tri/ef-facilities/#/Relea_1550se/80640SNCLR8581E)

My testimony also represents ongoing concerns of the League of Women Voters of Adams County about air toxics pollution within Adams County and lack of transparency about sources and corrective actions.

The bill provides for community engagement in planning for fence line monitoring and in the dissemination of monitoring data in real time. Public hearings are to be held in accessible locations with child care, include interpretation services in the relevant languages, and the decisions made public with translations. Relevant languages are those identified by the Census for the relevant area of within three miles of the facility.

Communities are to be informed of permit violations and corrective actions in a timely manner in the relevant languages.

We appreciate the consideration of this bill in support of quality of life in our communities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ann Sutton". The signature is written in a cursive style and is placed on a light blue rectangular background.

Ann Sutton Volunteer Lobbyist  
League of Women Voters of Colorado  
1410 Grant Street, Suite B-204  
Denver, CO 80203

Witness Signup List

House Energy & Environment  
 03/25/2021 1:30 PM  
 Testimony - HB21-1189 Regulate Air Toxics

Title	First Name	Last Name	Position	Representing	Testifying	Text of Testimony
Dr.	Joyce	Lisbin	For	350.org addressing the climate crisis	Remotely	
Mr.	Michael	Ruddock	For	Healthy Air and Water Colorado	Remotely	
Ms.	Ariana	Gonzalez	For	NRDC, Environmental Non-Profit	Remotely	
Dr.	Katie	Durrwachter-Erno	Neutral	Self	Remotely	
Dr.	Sheela	Mahnke	For	Colorado American Academy of Pediatrics	Remotely	
Ms	Madhvi	Chittoor	For	Madhvi4EcoEthics	Remotely	
Mr	Steve	Douglas	Amend	Self	Remotely	
Mrs	Kristi	Douglas	Amend	Self	Remotely	
Mrs.	Shaina	Oliver	For	Self	Remotely	
Dr	Jan	Douglas	For	Colorado Sierra Club	Remotely	
Mr.	Eamon	Eriksen	For	Self	Remotely	
	Carrie	Hackenberger	Amend	American Petroleum Institute Colorado	Remotely	
Mr.	Conor	May	For	Self	Remotely	
Dr.	Jim	Crooks	For	Self	Remotely	
Ms	Jan	Rose	For	Self	Remotely	
Mx.	Kevin	Patterson	For	Colorado Peoples Alliance	Remotely	
Mr.	Michael	Korenblat	Amend	Suncor Energy	Remotely	
	Scott	Prestidge	Amend	Colorado Oil & Gas Association	Remotely	
Mr.	Weston	Wilson	For	BE THE CHANGE - COLORADO	Remotely	
	Brian	Hlavacek	For	Tri-County Health Department and the Colorado Association of Local Public Health Officials	Remotely	
Dr.	Jim	Crooks	For	Self	Remotely	
Commissioner	Steve	O'Dorisio	For	Adams County	Remotely	
Mr.	Garrison	Kaufman	Questions Only	Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment	Remotely	
Ms	Barbara	Mills-Bria	Against	Self	Remotely	
	Ean	Tafoya	For	Colorado Latino Forum	Remotely	
Mr.	Stan	Dempsey	Against	Colorado Mining Association	Remotely	
Mrs	Sara	Diaz	For	Self	Remotely	
Dr.	Velma	Campbell	For	Self	Remotely	
	Issamar	Pichardo	For	Self	Remotely	
	Lucy	Molina	For	Self	Remotely	
Mr.	Jamison	Valdez	For	Mothers Out Front; Colorado Sierra Club; Green Latinos	Remotely	

I am writing to you in support of this bill and with a request that the air quality commission be required to measure for radioactive radon gas at oil and gas drilling and production sites.

In reading the bill I was surprised that a pollution source could put out so much deadly air pollutants such as hydrogen cyanide, hydrogen sulfide and benzene. I have compromised lung health and really am appalled that a pollution source is putting that kind and amount of pollution in the air legally. I know the American Lung Association gives the air quality in Northern Colorado an "F" grade, now I have a better understanding of why. I also understand that Northern Colorado has not met EPA air quality standards since 2004, and pollution is getting worse. We can and must do better than this. So I support the review of the permitted volumes and thresholds as well as a review of new types of air toxins

Mr. Greg Flebbe For Self Submitted text

of Colorado concerned about our kids, their health today, and their future tomorrow. Thank you for the opportunity to share our concerns about toxic air pollution with you today. Thank you also to the primary sponsors of HB21-1189: Representatives Benavidez and Valdez, and Senators Gonzales and Moreno.

Jen Clanahan For Mountain Mamas Submitted text

Witness Signup List

3/19/2021

Testimony for HB 21-1189  
Dr. Laura Harmacek, PhD | Scientific Coordinator | Environmental Epigenetics  
Research Program | National Jewish Health  
House District 9, Senate District 13

Members of the House Energy and Environment Committee, thank for reading my  
testimony on behalf of House Bill 21-1189.

My name is Laura Harmacek, I am an Immune Epigenetic Researcher at National  
Jewish Health in the Denver Metro Area.

I am writing today in support of HB 21-1189 because I care deeply about the  
impacts of poor air quality on the health and wellbeing of so many Coloradans. I  
also care deeply that you have the power and influence to affect the health, safety  
and advocacy for so many groups of people, especially vulnerable groups.

I see the molecular effects of air pollution in my research. I see an increase in  
inflammation and the immune system. Science tells us that increased inflammation  
negatively affects all organs and systems. We see this specifically in asthmatics  
immune systems I study. Prolonged air pollution affects how the immune system  
can respond to disease and every day stress and insults. My patients need to be  
able to understand the levels of air pollution they are exposed to in order to make  
healthy decisions about play, exercise and both outdoor and indoor exposures.  
Moreover, it will empower them understand how their bodies are affected by  
prolonged pollution.

Vulnerable populations live close to these refineries, etc. and must be given real-  
time the tools to monitor their exposure to unhealthy pollutants. The current  
standard of smokestack monitoring does not do justice to the surrounding  
communities directly adjacent of these industries fence line. This bill makes  
common sense changes to empower and protect our vulnerable citizens.

I am writing today to give you an immune molecular biologist's observations and  
opinions on how to keep my patients, their immune systems, and their communities  
safe.

Dr. Laura Harmacek For Self

Submitted text

I am writing to you in support of this bill and with a request that the air quality  
commission be required to measure for radioactive radon gas at oil and gas drilling  
and production sites.  
In reading the bill I was surprised that a pollution source could put out so much  
deadly air pollutants such as hydrogen cyanide, hydrogen sulfide and benzene. I  
have compromised lung health and really am appalled that a pollution source is  
putting that kind and amount of pollution in the air legally. I know the American  
Lung Association gives the air quality in Northern Colorado an "F" grade, now I  
have a better understanding of why. I also understand that Northern Colorado has  
not met EPA air quality standards since 2004, and pollution is getting worse. We  
can and must do better than this. So I support the review of the permitted volumes  
and thresholds as well as a review of new types of air toxins  
It is with regard to this last point that I would like to see the consideration of  
radioactive radon gas, particularly as it relates to oil and gas fracking drilling and  
production, measured as an air toxin at high density colocation sites, or at least a  
pilot study done to determine if indeed it is a problem in Northern Colorado.  
There is no safe level of radon exposure. Radon is the leading cause of lung  
cancer in non-smokers in the United States and is found in high concentrations in  
homes, schools and businesses across the country. Nearly 73% of all homes in  
Colorado have levels of the gas well above the national average. In my subdivision  
of 44 homes, 4 homes have required mitigation measures due to high radon levels  
which is a result of the geology in our area.  
My concern is this, a Harvard University study released last October, claimed that  
"fracking development" may be associated with increased radioactive particle  
material (airborne radon) that "may cause adverse health outcomes in nearby  
communities.". The study was based primarily on drilling sites of 1-4 collocated  
wells. The fracking colocation sites around Windsor, and I imagine other urban  
areas in Colorado, have between 20 and well over 60 collocated wells. The drilling  
and fracking is being done in formations that already produce high levels of radon  
The fracking not only releases the natural gas, it also releases lots of radon. Then  
all the wells and production facilities are collocated in what could be a very  
concentrated unhealthy situation.

Mr. Greg Flebbe For Self

Submitted text

Witness Signup List

	Jenny Gaeng	For	Conservation Colorado	Submitted text	<p>My name is Jenny Gaeng and I am the Transportation Advocate for Conservation Colorado. Today I write to you on behalf of our over 60,000 members statewide in support of HB-1189, Regulate Air Toxics. This is one of the most important bills I have had the honor of working on in my years as an environmental organizer and advocate.</p> <p>HB21-1189 is a common-sense measure to address environmental injustice in our most vulnerable communities. Right now, industrial polluters are not being held accountable for the toxic chemicals they emit into our neighborhoods -- they are not even monitored by the state. Over the last few weeks, we have seen firsthand how they are allowed to manipulate reality by revising their self-reported emissions. In the case of Goodrich Carbon in Pueblo, their estimated 2019 benzene emissions changed overnight from 5,500 pounds to just 32. This bill will require four covered facilities to create and maintain two types of monitoring systems: fence-line monitoring to track fugitive emissions, and community-based monitoring to study long-term health effects. And it requires that information to be communicated to the public.</p> <p>When it comes to health and safety, I know we all agree that no Colorado should be ignored. But that's what's happening. Frontline neighborhoods like Elyria-Swansea, often ranked as the most heavily polluted zip code in the United States, have long been subject to high instances of asthma and cancer, low birth weights, and now, a higher risk of death from COVID-19. This injustice has been sustained for one reason above all else: environmental racism. The communities surrounding our four covered facilities are predominately people of color with low incomes.</p> <p>In Colorado, we believe in justice for all. Now it's time to act on that belief. The right to know about poisonous chemicals in the air we breathe does not stop at neighborhood borders. That's why this bill has such widespread support. I urge you to take the right step today and vote yes on HB-1189.</p> <p>I was born and raised in the Denver metro area and am a 2000 graduate of the University of Denver College of Law. I urge you to vote yes on HB21-1189.</p> <p>I currently live in Capitol Hill. From 2004-2017, I lived in the US Virgin Islands. Upon my return to Denver in 2017, I have noticed that I suffer from increased migraines, daily sinus issues, a sore throat that sometimes inhibits my ability to swallow, and coughing. Within a day of family and friends coming to visit they experience the same medical issues.</p> <p>I do not live near an industrial site, but in a residential neighborhood about five miles from any major toxic emitting facility and yet my health and the health of my neighbors and friends suffer. I cannot even fathom the pollution and air quality threats Coloradans living near large toxic polluters experience. I have heard their stories and they are downright frightening, especially for the children.</p> <p>In my time as an attorney, the bulk of my practice was focused on complex toxic tort litigation. I worked on hundreds of cases alleging exposure to toxics, some of which would now be monitored by this Bill. The plaintiff workers in those cases who were independent contractors wore OSHA mandated personal protective equipment and personal (as well as area monitors) that would alert if they exceeded the threshold for exposure. However, many of them still became sick. Many of the reported instances of illness by these workers included respiratory illnesses like COPD and asthma, and frequent nosebleeds and headaches. Others developed cancer and even leukemia, some before their 50th birthday. Even worse, some died before their cases were heard.</p> <p>This bill seeks to require four of Colorado's largest toxic polluters (after amendment) to use the latest in real time fence line monitoring that will provide data to citizens almost immediately on a public facing website in the two dominant languages of the area. The bill will also require community based monitoring. This will help determine how much toxics are actually escaping into communities where people are not wearing personal protective equipment and could potentially face a higher incidence of exposure. The best part of this bill is that the monitoring will be paid for by the facilities emitting the toxics and not the taxpayers.</p> <p>I urge you to vote yes on HB21-1189 to protect the public health and safety of the citizens that you have vowed to represent.</p>
Ms.	Sunshine Benoit	For	Self	Submitted text	<p>Thank you.</p> <p>Members of the Committee,</p> <p>My name is Adrian, I am a resident of Denver and am writing today to talk about my support for HB21-1189. I think we need this bill to pass in our state. One of the main things that I notice is the smog that is clearly visible from lookout mountain over the city and the concentration of air pollution near all of the factories north of Denver that spread air pollution to other areas. We deserve to know what's in our air and where to find that information. I am in full support of better air and water for everyone! Please make the right decision support for HB21-1189.</p>
Ms.	Adrian Olson	For	Colorado People's Alliance	Submitted text	

Witness Signup List

Rebecca	Hanes	For	Colorado People's Alliance	Submitted text	<p>My name is Rebecca Hanes and I am a member of Colorado People's Alliance. I currently live in south Denver, in zip code 80237, and have lived in the Denver area since July 2015. I've been in Colorado less than six years and have seen the air quality grow noticeably worse even in that short time. When I first moved here I could see the mountains almost every day, and the buildings in downtown Denver were visible even from Golden. Today, from my home, I can see the mountains maybe three days out of the week, in a good week. The rest of the time, there is so much smog in the air that all I see is gray. I regularly get poor air quality alerts through the weather app on my phone, and did even before the wildfires of last summer made it unsafe to go outside for days at a time.</p> <p>I was so excited to move to Colorado from Ohio, a state where we poison our drinking water with fertilizer runoff and where a river near my childhood home, the Cuyahoga River, has caught fire five separate times to date. I had heard about how nature was treasured in Colorado and looked forward to living somewhere where the people truly cared for the place where they lived. The people in Colorado are passionate about their environment, but there are corporations in this state that do not care about how much they pollute or what the human health impacts are, if they can only turn a profit. There are many heavy industrial facilities in the Denver area that are contaminating our air in ways that we are not told about. It is unacceptable for a corporation to release toxins into the air that make the environment unsafe for us to go outside or even open our windows. It is unacceptable for us not to know what we are breathing in when we go outside, and what the risks of doing so might be.</p> <p>I support HB21-1189 and I call on all Colorado state legislators to do the same. Fine-line monitoring is essential if we are to know what is being released into the air, when, and by which corporations. Community monitoring will tell us what toxics are making their way into our homes, schools, and places of business. Both types of monitoring will get us the information we need to finally start controlling corporate</p>
Alan	Castillo	For	Colorado People's Alliance	Submitted text	<p>Hola mi nombre es Alan y soy un orgulloso miembro de Colorado People's Alliance. Necesitamos apoyar la ley HB21-1189, tenemos que monitorear la calidad del aire que respiramos en nuestra comunidad, nuestra ciudad y nuestro estado. Lo Necesitamos y merecemos tener aire limpio para tener una adecuada calidad de vida, las empresas deben hacerse responsables por los desperdicios que generan, no podemos seguir poniendo intereses corporativos y económicos sobre la salud y el bienestar de nuestra gente.</p> <p>Ustedes pueden hacer una diferencia el día de hoy para demostrar que están aquí para servir a la gente y no al dinero, a la comunidad no a las compañías. ¡ Apoyar la ley HB21-1189!</p> <p>Hello my name is Alan and I am a proud member of the Colorado People's Alliance. We need to support HB21-1189, we need to monitor the quality of the air we breathe in our community, our city and our state. We need it and we deserve to have clean air to have an adequate quality of life, companies must be responsible for the waste they generate, we cannot continue to put corporate and economic interests on the health and well-being of our people.</p> <p>You can make a difference today to show that you are here to serve the people and not the money, the community, not the companies.Support HB21-1189!</p> <p>Members of the Committee,</p> <p>My name is Canary and I'm a resident of Commerce City. I wanted to share some words in support of HB21-1189. I have huge concerns with both the air quality in my community. In regards to the air, I'm constantly checking the air quality monitors online but they often don't reflect real time conditions. For example, sometimes even after checking the weather, the air quality reports and going outside for a walk around my neighborhood, I still run into burning smells and smells of chemicals in the air. This leaves me wondering what I'm breathing in and how I can keep myself safe if I can't even get fresh air from a walk around the block. Colorado is too pretty for our environment to be this badly contaminated. This is why I want to encourage our legislators to pass this bill HB21-1189. Thank you for your time and I hope you will do all you can to better the air quality in our communities.</p>
Canary	Rossum	For	Colorado People's Alliance	Submitted text	<p>Members of the Committee,</p> <p>My name is Cindy and I live in Commerce City. I'm sharing my support for HB21-1189. I notice that in the summer especially, the air smells like trash. They don't care about us. It feels like our elected officials need to do more to regulate the horrible emissions being put in the air by corporations. The corporations don't care either considering all the toxic chemicals they are pumping into the air. I remember when it was so bad there was ash falling from the sky and they had to shut down the schools. Now with COVID19 respiratory health is an even bigger concern to my community. This is why we need to pass HB21-1189, more than ever our communities need relief.</p>
Cindy	Rivera	For	Colorado People's Alliance	Submitted text	

Witness Signup List

Miembros del Comité,

Mi nombre es Fernando y soy un residente de Colorado, tengo unas palabras que decir para apoyar a HB21-1189, la ley que esta tratando de regular y monitorear la polución en el aire. Yo trabajo como conductor de tralle y ando manejando cada rato. Yo noto las emisiones de las refinadoras y se que la calidad del aire no es buena por estas emisiones. Yo pienso que todos debemos poner de nuestra parte para asegurarnos que tengamos las cosas mas basicas como agua y aire limpio. Yo pienso que estoy haciendo lo mejor para hacer mi parte y le pido a nuestros legisladores hagan su parte tambien y apoyen a HB21-1189.

Members of the Committee,

My name is Fernando and I'm a resident of Colorado. I have a few words to say in support of HB21-1189, the bill that's working to regulate and monitor the pollution in the air. I work as a truck driver and I'm always driving around. I notice the emissions corporations are putting in the air and I think that's part of the reason for the bad air quality. I think that we all need to do our part to make sure we have the most basic things like clean air to breathe and water to drink. I'm doing the best I

Fernando Sanchez For Colorado People's Alliance

Submitted text

Members of the Committee,

My name is Jesus, I'm a member of Colorado People's Alliance. I am a solar energy worker and a resident of Colorado. I wanted to say a few words in support of House Bill 21-1189 on monitoring air pollution. As a person involved in renewable energy I think it's important for us to take the steps needed to have healthy environments. I'm not an expert on the subject but I am willing to make the lifestyle changes needed to have a healthy life. I want to ask the same of my representatives in voting in support of this bill. Every morning we wake up, get ready and try our best. I was conscious enough to change my diet to a vegan organic diet, and all of our actions have an impact. I made this choice because of seeing the terrible effects of the meat industry. But this isn't the only industry that is hurting our communities. We have to understand what we are facing and to make decisions on how we can make changes in our lives. The same is with our state, we have to make the right choices because these choices are in our every day. Our communities need access to healthy food and healthy environments. This includes our air. Enough is enough. This is why I support the passing of HB21-1189, please vote yes in support of its passing. Thank you.

Jesus Jesus For Colorado People's Alliance

Submitted text

Members of the Committee,

Hello, my name is Francisco and I have a few words to say in support of HB21-1189. My biggest concern in the state is the pollution in the air that is being put there by corporations. It's too much and the worst part is, our city council doesn't really listen to the concerns of citizens or do what is best for us. I think that these polluters have always been up to no good. It's not fair that our communities have a history of contamination like the soil in Swansea. It's a disgrace that this is one of the most polluted zip codes in the nation. This is why I support the passing of HB21-1189. We need a strong bill that will bring monitoring to our communities and our state. This is the first step to get us in the right direction. Thank you and I hope you consider my testimony in making your vote.

Francisco Declaw For Colorado People's Alliance

Submitted text

Members of the Committee,

My name is Kevin Wysocki I support HB21-1189 because clean air is vital to our longevity and existence. We take in new air almost 20,000 times per day, and if that air has even a small amount of toxins in it, the repetitive nature can cause serious long term health implications. If you work or live near a facility that is polluting poisonous chemicals such as hydrogen cyanide, hydrogen sulfide, or benzene, which are often lower income and minorities, the risk of negative health effects is much greater. They deserve the same protection and access to clean air as everyone else.

When we look at any form of pollution including greenhouse gas, trash, water, and other forms, corporations and the products they produce account for a majority, often higher than 70%. The only way corporations will make changes to how they pollute is legislation, which you have the power to pass.

Just as we have strict laws for water pollution which helps to deter business from contaminating our waterways, we need to continue to update our air pollution laws to ensure everyone in our community has access to clean air where they live and work. I strongly support bill HB21-1189 and hope you will support it as well.

Kevin Wysocki For Colorado People's Alliance

Submitted text

Witness Signup List

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Members of the Committee,

Hello my name is Luis and I'm a resident of Commerce City, I live in Reunion so I didn't think the pollution in the air was as big of a concern for me as it is for folks that live closer to all those polluters. But I have to admit that with CO being home to one of the most polluted zip codes in the nation, we need to do better as a state. This is why I support HB21-1189 and want to ask my elected officials to please do everything you can so that this bill can pass.

Members of the Committee,

My name is Luis and I'm a Coloradan that's been living in Commerce City for the last year. I'm want to talk about why we need HB21-1189. In my community I notice a nearby sewer that smells like propane. I'm not sure why it smells that way but it doesn't seem safe with how close it is to my neighborhood. On 69th street and Quebec there is always a smell in the air but there are times when it's stronger.

This is why I think we need to add more regulation and monitoring to air pollution. It's not a nice feeling to have these things be a part of your everyday life. I urge you to pass HB21-1189 so we can start to address some of these issues in my community.

Members of the Committee,

My name is Paul Shallcross. I live in Senate District 31, House District 8. And I support bill #HB 21-1189.

I've lived my entire life in two major cities (Chicago/Denver). I love the fast-paced environment and energy cities create. The traffic and noise and abundance of people is never something that bothered me; rather, I embraced it and all the activities these metro areas provide.

I also love camping. I love the outdoors, the crisp, freshness of the air, the ability to look up into the sky and actually see stars. It's things like this that brought me to Denver.

If you think there is a dichotomy between these two things...well you are probably correct. In my mind I justified it as the cost of business in an urban area, the pureness I experienced in more desolate areas simply wasn't sustainable in a metropolis.

Then COVID hit. COVID is awful and I obviously don't need to detail why. But I have tried in the last year to find silver linings from the pandemic, and one of the most startling was the improvement in the quality of air, not only in Denver but in cities around the world. Looking at social media and seeing pictures of places usually covered in smog simply weren't anymore. In a way it was beautiful (ignoring the awful reasons why this occurred). And it made me realize cities didn't always have to be the way they are. It may be easier and more economically beneficial for companies to operate as they were pre-COVID, but that doesn't mean it's the manner in which it should happen. The easy way and right way are often different, and this is a prime example.

Air toxins are dangerous, they are deadly, and they occur perpetually in cities throughout the world without most people batting an eye. It is not acceptable to continue this type of behavior. Changes must be made, even if they are incremental. That's why I support the monitoring measure in HB 21-1189. The pandemic has given pause to many industries and entities on how to proceed going forward. This should be no exception. In fact, it's the perfect time to implement change.

	Kimberly	Delgado	For	Colorado People's Alliance	Submitted text
	Luis	Metzger	For	Colorado People's Alliance	Submitted text
	Luis	Ramos	For	Colorado People's Alliance	Submitted text
Ms.	Paul	Shallcross	For	Colorado People's Alliance	Submitted text
Mrs.	Maria	Najera	For	Western Resource Advocates	Uploaded file
	Laurie	Anderson	For	Moms Clean Air Force Colorado	Uploaded file
	Tracy	Coppola	For	National Parks Conservation Association	Uploaded file
Ms.	Ann	Sutton	For	League of Women Voters of Colorado Legislative Affairs Committee	Uploaded file
	Adrienne	Dorsey	For	GRID Alternatives Colorado	Uploaded file