

6/2/2017

Senate committee hearing testimony**Saul Alfaro**

Thank you madame chair, my name is Saul Alfaro and I am a student at Metropolitan State University of Denver representing myself this afternoon in support of House Bill 1261 to be passed in order to reduce pollution in the state of Colorado.

As a young citizen of Colorado, I care about our environment and I hope that our government has every Coloradan's health in mind. House Bill 1261 would create cost-effective regulations to reduce climate change in the state of Colorado and would benefit all Coloradan's. Looking at the big picture, staying stagnant on climate change now could negatively impact the future generations of Colorado along with our own and it is important to take action before it is too late.

As it stands now, Colorado has an under-regulated oil and gas industry which hurts our environment and all citizens of Colorado deserve to live in a clean and healthy environment. House Bill 1261 would create well-paying jobs that would be regulated which would help our economy greatly knowing that our government has failed when they had the opportunity to make a positive impact on climate change. This bill would help pave the way for clean and renewable energy across the state of Colorado and would have a positive impact on our economy and all citizens of Colorado.

Overall I urge you to support House Bill 1261 because when it comes to our environment it is overlooked at times, thank you for your time.

Colin Tomkins-Bergh
Citizen Testimonial
Denver, CO

Testimony in support of
HB 19-1261: Climate Action Plan to Reduce Pollution

Members of the Committee:

My name is Colin Tomkins-Bergh, and I'm here to testify in favor of HB19-1261.

A year and a half ago, my fiancé and I moved to Denver, excited to live the Colorado lifestyle: skiing in the winter, camping in the summer, and breathing the clean mountain air year round.

Since then, we have been disappointed to learn how each is at stake due to climate change. According to POW, the Rocky Mountains have already lost 20% of their spring snowpack, and three quarters of Aspen Mountain won't be skiable by 2100. According to the Colorado State Forest Service, "Droughts and wildfires will increase in frequency and severity in Colorado by 2050, mainly as a consequence of continued warming." And now, when I wake up and check the weather, I'm being advised by Apple's Weather App to avoid outdoor activity due to unsafe air quality. Colorado's way of life is truly being threatened. And as a citizen, I ask you to vote in favor of HB19-1261 and cap emissions to protect our climate.

Furthermore, as an employee at an innovative and sustainable food distribution company, I know that many companies like mine in the cleantech and social sectors will practically benefit from this legislation. **This bill will increase their revenues and create jobs in sectors that are in line with the future of our economy.** This bill will also lead to innovations that accelerate our transition to a clean economy while positioning us as a national leader in sustainable tech, which will only further enhance our economy.

Please vote in favor of HB19-1261 to cap our emissions, protect our way of life, and support a clean economy. Thank you for your consideration.

Rachel Kois
Simple Switch
Broomfield, CO

Testimony in support of
HB 19-1261: Climate Action Plan to Reduce Pollution

Members of the Committee:

My name is Rachel Kois, and I'm here to testify for HB19-1261.

Three years ago, I found myself searching the Internet for an online marketplace that aggregated and sold ethically sourced products that when purchased, created some positive impact in the world. As it turns out, that didn't exist. I set out to create Simple Switch, and our goal is to be a sort of 'Amazon' of positive purchasing, making it convenient for the everyday consumer to use their purchasing power to help our planet and the people on it. We're a small company that is dead-set on ensuring business is a force for good. Equally as important, we're savvy business people who see the enormous economic opportunity in serving the 136 million Millennials and Gen Z globally who are increasingly concerned with the social and environmental impact of every financial, political, and personal decision they make.

I've chosen to be here, giving up precious time in my workday, because I truly support HB19-1261. I believe that passing this bill is not only the right thing to do for our planet, our future, and our way of life, but also believe this bill will tangibly benefit businesses like mine and the economy of my beloved home state of Colorado. **The bill will increase the market for environmentally conscious companies, leading to higher revenues and more jobs.**

I am confident that this bill will also lead to tremendous innovations in sustainability that will benefit all sectors. It will help guide companies toward meeting impressive carbon goals, which will in turn position Colorado as a national leader in sustainable business.

Please, on behalf of Colorado citizens, pass this bill to meaningfully address wildfires, floods, and air pollution. Additionally, on behalf of business owners like myself and all of our stakeholders, please pass this bill to support Colorado's economy, which will *grow* in ways that are better for the planet, our consumers and our workforce.

Thank you for your time.

Testimony of
Shaina Oliver, Member of the Navajo Nation
Denver Colorado
On April 22, 2019
For Senate Committee of Reference
State, Veterans, & Military Affairs
HB19-1261
Colorado General Assembly
200 E. Colfax Avenue
Denver, Colorado 80203
Public Hearing Testimony

My name is Shaina Oliver with the Moms Clean Air Force and I am a mother of 4 boys. I am here because I was diagnosed with asthma in my infancy and born with a birth defect, which has become the norm for people affected by the exploitation of natural resources. I am an indigenous woman of the Navajo Nation. I am born from the Bitter/Alkaline Water Clan on my Mother's side and Salt Water Clan on my Father's side. I am here to offer my support of HB19-1261 Climate Action Plan to Reduce Pollution.

The United States operates and adheres to international laws dealing with international trade, as well as, oil and gas adheres to international laws. The United Nations adopted Article 26, the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People in 2007. Giving Indigenous people more rights pertaining to cultural protections and traditions over ancestral lands. It is not the government entity's right alone, but these government entities are supposed to act as a trusted middle man; a middle man that's supposed to protect my inherit right as an indigenous woman of this land. I have an obligation to voice these rights so that my children will continue to retain these rights as well. And it's the responsibility of each man and woman who is a creator of a child into this world, to protect their child's right to clean air, clean water and clean lands to

cultivate. These fossil fuel industries, natural resources extractors, and exploiters have yet to acknowledge Indigenous rights fully and respectfully. However, they do work within international laws pertaining to monetary funds. It is time for the fossil fuel exploiters and investors to respect indigenous rights, and to restore the trust between the First Nations people and Non-Indigenous people. By respecting the peoples right to clean water, clean air and clean lands to be sustained for generations to come. The Colorado River, the Rio Grande River, Animas River, San Juan River and many other waters sources are important water sources to my tribe south of Colorado, as well as, many other Indigenous communities and non-indigenous communities. These rivers are connected to us culturally and traditionally and are a part of our oral history. And I do not agree to fossil fuel industries in using billions of gallons of freshwater sources that will affect the people's rights and access to clean water and clean lands down the road. Its time for all level of governments to acknowledge and implement article 26 international law of The Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People. All policies should be at adherence to article 26, since treaties are supreme law of the lands under the ratified version of the united states constitution. Anything west of the Mississippi was stated to be tribal territory. 2007 the United States voted against article 26, while 144 states voted in favor of Indigenous Peoples Rights. But that changed in 2010 when the United States retracted its vote with an apology to the First Nations. As an Indigenous woman I am voicing my support of HB19-1261 as an aid to respecting Indigenous lands, water and air, all are connected.

According to the EPA's 2018 report of 1990-2016 the number of trees to absorb CO2s would have to be three times the size of the U.S., not counting the CO2s thereafter. The United Nations has also most recently made an announcement giving warning to the world. We have a

two-year warning to start preparing a plan of action to protect the plants and animals from climate change consequences. I am asking you today to be a hearer of the Great Spirit and to not close your ears to truth, but to accept the consequences of our actions and improve on our faults by acknowledging Indigenous Rights and the generations hereafter right to access clean water, clean air, and clean lands. **Please vote in support of HB19-1261.**

Regina Lopez-Whiteskunk Climate Action Plan to Reduce Pollution

Good afternoon, my name is Regina Lopez-Whiteskunk. I am a member of the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe and resident of Montezuma County. I am here as an individual and constituent of Colorado.

Change is inevitable, our ancestors have told the stories as written on canyon walls with ancient petroglyphs. The days of drought, changing movement of the wild game and vegetation out on the land. As we look out on the horizon we see the changing tree lines, water lines and abandon game trails due to the change that the wildlife is responding to.

Today I encourage vote Yes, on n8 HB 1261: Climate Action Plan to Reduce Pollution! When our current administration pulled out of the Paris Climate Agreement, I was very concerned. My father sat one morning with me talking about a time gone by. He was raised by his grandfather who was the last medicine man for the Ute Mountain Ute, Weeminuche Band. He said, when grandpa would prepare for ceremony he would watched how the sun, moon, stars and animals were moving. He would sit a cup of water in one location and watch the rate of water evaporation. How quickly or slow the process took. He recalled a conversation that my great-grandfather had with him that he described as being scary. He spoke of a big change. My father asked me, if this Climate change was grandpa may have been referring to? I didn't know how to respond because it set fear loose inside of me.

Prior to the coming of the European soldiers and settlers, the Ute people were out on the land moving with seasons and resources. We were told that all that she, Mother Earth provides for is all we needed. The Ute people paid close attention to the water levels, movement of the game and growth of vegetation to ensure the care of our families. As I walk and run on the trails I can clearly see that I share the trails with elk, deer, coyotes, mountain lions, wild horses and many more lives. We share this space, but what makes the difference for me is my ability to communicate with others. With songs, dances and spoken words I demonstrate a shared space and time.

When change occurs due to our creations, then it is our responsibility to respond accordingly, for our next generations. As my grandparents taught me, always leave it better then you found it. It is our responsibility to create policies, and decisions to be accountable for our actions. With the United States no longer a party to the Paris Climate Agreement, it puts more local governments in the position to do what is right. To leave it better then they found it! We as Coloradan see climate change as a big concern. This is an opportunity for Colorado to show the nation we are taking the climate change conversation seriously through this opportunity.

I support this bill for the simple fact that seeking solutions with an innovative push for renewable energy across our economy. I am a firmly believer in creative solution building.

Thank you for the honor to speak before the House committee for Energy and Environment!!

- Global Strategy Group found that in a likely 2020 scenario, a limit on carbon pollution polls at 68% for all voters, and among Democrats a staggering 81%.

This bill will drive innovation and thousands of megawatts of clean, renewable energy across our economy, creating good-paying jobs that cannot be outsourced, sending a signal to businesses that technologies to reduce emissions are worth the investment. It will also improve our air quality and public health, especially in communities that are most impacted by climate change and air pollution like the elderly, children, and those with long-term health conditions.

Good afternoon. My name is Jennifer Clanahan and I am here today to support HB19-1261, the Climate Action Plan to Reduce Pollution.

Climate change is an issue that impacts the future even more than today. That makes it easy for some people to try to ignore it. But for those of us who are parents, we are unable to ignore it. We do all that we can to offer our kids a bright future. We try to offer them a strong education so they are ready for tomorrow's jobs. Maybe we try to set some money aside to help pay for college. We teach them skills that will serve them well like perseverance. All this so that they can have a bright future. So why wouldn't we also do everything we can to leave them a healthy planet that isn't plagued by drought, wildfire and pollution with severe storms and increasing numbers of disease carrying insects. That's not the future we want for our kids.

While some want to remain in denial, the science is clear. Because we've waited so long to address climate change, we need to take immediate and robust action today. This bill sets a strong framework that is exactly what scientists say we need to do.

Colorado needs to take these steps because the federal government will not. But the failure of the federal government doesn't mean our children should suffer the consequences. We need to lead the way and demonstrate success so that other states will follow.

Over the years I've asked my parents why they didn't take certain precautions that would have protected me better, like why they didn't make me wear sunscreen or why did they smoke around us kids. They always claim they didn't know any better. But we know. We know full well the dangers of climate change. We need to act now to protect our children so that they don't ask us in 20 years why we didn't do anything to keep them out of harm's way.

Thank you.

Testimony from Jennifer Clanahan of Denver, 303-775-3539

Testimony – HB19-1261

April 22, 2019

Chairman Foote, members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to present to you today. My name is Tim Howard, I am here representing myself. I am here in support of House Bill 19-1261.

As a father of 5, my paramount job is to keep my family safe. The moment we expand our field of vision beyond the next year or two – the threat posed by the climate crisis should be the top priority for each of us.

As a Wharton trained investment banker, I can tell you, the memorialization of aggressive emission reduction targets will likely have the opposite effect of what is being articulated by opponents of this bill. When you choose to put a stake in the ground that defines Colorado as a leader on reducing emissions you are creating entrepreneurial and workforce opportunities.

HB-1261 codifies targets that will innovation and accelerated change, as result solutions, capital, and jobs will flow to Colorado to address those needs. As an early mover, Colorado is positioned to realize a disproportionate amount of the new jobs and economic benefits from the transition to a carbon emission free state.

Make no mistake, job transitions will be required.

I am asking each of you to look at the facts and data, we are running out of time to take a stand here. We need you to be bold and do what is right for Colorado and our children.

Members of this committee have voted in support of the health and safety of our communities on multiple bills that have faced enormous special interest push back. I thank you for your courage and your commitment to our state. Now it is time to expand your window of focus to make those same brave choices for our children and their children.

Thank you for your time and the opportunity to express my support for House Bill 1261, I urge you all to support this important legislation.

Tim Howard

Supervisor CO 80027

(703) 909-6807

tim@safesupervisor.com

Dear Senator Foote and members of the State, Veterans and Military Affairs,

I urge you to pass HB19-1261 through your committee and to vote in favor of it on the full Senate floor. We have no time to waste to protect Colorado and Earth from the climate crisis.

We live in a very dry state that depends on snow stored in the mountains for our water supply. Our entire water system is threatened by rising temperatures. Less snow will fall in the winter, so the snowpack will be much smaller. As a double whammy, the snowpack will melt faster, so our farmers will not have enough water to harvest their summer crops. Colorado farmers will suffer, and many will have to close their farms.

Forest fires are deadly and economically devastating in Colorado. Global warming has already accelerated fires in Colorado, and unless we reverse course immediately, it will get much worse.

On a much larger scale, the entire planet will change resulting in mass migrations and epic suffering.

We must take a stand today. Please lend all your support to HB19-1261 and save our planet.

Thank you,

Bruce Norikane
Boulder, 80304

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Dear Senators Gardner and Bennet,

Thank you for taking my testimony today. I am a 4th generation Colorado native and mother of four living in rural Boulder County.

I urge you to pass HB1261 and support it when it gets to a floor vote. Climate change is already affecting us in Colorado, and its impact on our livelihood and our economy will only increase over time. All 64 of Colorado's counties have had national weather disasters declared since 2010.

This is not normal; this is a crisis and should be treated as such. This affects our families and our children's futures. Denver is the 8th most polluted city in the country and this year has had more than five days above the EPA limit with smog levels above 120 (that's higher than Beijing). The EPA standard for 2015 is 70. According to NOAA, 45% of that smog is caused by oil and gas operations, 45% by transportation, and 10% by factories, chemical plants and other industrial operations.

The technology to move away from fossil fuels is here. 17 Mayors/Cities/Counties in Colorado already have campaigns underway to achieve 100% renewable electricity, including Denver city and County—the largest city and county by population in the state, and Governor Polis campaigned on a goal of 100% renewable electricity by 2040.

Ladies and gentleman, we must take action on this crisis, for the future of our state and for those who come after us.

Please pass HB1261. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Heidi Alina
80301



Fwd: Testimony for HB-1261 for committee 4/22

Amelia Myers

to:

julia.jackson

04/22/2019 12:41 PM

Hide Details

From: Amelia Myers <amelia@conservationco.org>

To: julia.jackson@state.co.us

Security:

To ensure privacy, images from remote sites were prevented from downloading. Show Images

Hi Julia,

This is a written testimony for the record for today's HB19-1261 hearing. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you,

Amelia

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Catherine Ebeling** <caebeling@gmail.com>

Date: Mon, Apr 22, 2019 at 11:47 AM

Subject: Testimony for HB-1261 for committee 4/22

To: <amelia@conservationco.org>

Cc: Kate Stigberg <kstigberg@healthiercolorado.org>

HB 1261 - The Climate Action Plan to Reduce Pollution

From:

Catherine Ebeling, RN BSN

410 Pearl Street, Boulder CO 80302

Thank you Rep. KC Becker, Rep. Dominique Jackson, Senator Faith Winter and Sentator Angela Williams for sponsoring HB-1261 Climate Action Plan to Reduce Pollution.

I am writing to support House Bill 1261 and to share with you the health implications of our changing climate—both for me, personally and for the citizens of the state of Colorado.

My name is Catherine Ebeling and I live in Boulder Colorado. I am a health care professional.

I am finishing my Masters Degree in Nursing and Public Health. I chose this area so I could work on protecting people's health against the increasing dangers of climate change. I have written six books on diet, fitness and health. I am a mother of three grown children--two of whom live in the Denver area.

I am an elite level athlete, and I moved to Colorado to ride my bike, hike and run in this beautiful state—I thought the air would be cleaner and easier to breathe than in St. Louis, where I came from. You see, I have asthma and it is triggered by pollution, ozone, smoke, and pollen, and when combined with exercise outside, I cough and wheeze, struggling to breathe. The air quality has gotten noticeably worse here in Colorado in the few years I have lived here.

Climate change is having a huge effect on Colorado's average temperature, air quality, wildfires and our health. Climate change is worsening Colorado's air quality, creating higher temperatures, more drought, more ozone, more forest fires, and increasing pollen and allergy seasons.

Ozone traps all these toxic ingredients, increasing the effects of asthma, COPD, heart and lung issues, and stressing out the very young, the elderly, those who live in low-income areas, and those who are more prone to breathing problems.

The poor air quality can have a permanently damaging effect on all of us, leading to

serious respiratory diseases and damaging the lungs. Last year the Colorado Climate Change Vulnerability study was submitted to the Colorado Energy Office. It listed "negative air quality effects" as a major public health area of concern related to future climate change.

Outdoor air pollution leads to more than 3 million premature deaths a year worldwide. A study published in the journal *Nature*, identifies particulate matter as the prime pollutant leading to premature deaths.

Particulate matter is considered harmful to humans at or above 2.5 micrometers. Ozone is also a major factor as it traps toxic particulates in the atmosphere.

These fine particles get trapped in our sinuses and deep into our lung tissue, decreasing lung function—for both healthy and vulnerable populations.

Rising temperatures create more drought conditions and forest fires, increasing the dust and smoke trapped in the ozone. Rising temperatures mean more days of extreme heat which stress the cardiovascular, respiratory, and nervous systems.

Climate change extends pollen season longer, creating even more triggers floating around in the atmosphere to irritate lungs and potentially cause asthma attacks.

Colorado's average temperature has increased by 2 degrees Fahrenheit and could increase another 5 degrees by 2050.

Hotter days can also cause dehydration and heat stroke.

Our air is being dramatically compromised by climate change.

There are approximately 107,000 children and 380,000 adults living with asthma in Colorado. I am one of them. There is nothing scarier than trying to catch your breath and no air is coming in.

Another 180,000 adults live with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease here. The worsening air quality is particularly dangerous for these vulnerable Coloradans.

Air pollution increases risk of heart disease, COPD, permanent damage to the lungs, asthma, bronchitis, emphysema and even lung cancer.

We need to act NOW to protect our state from the negative impacts of climate change that we're already experiencing here in Colorado. Our air quality is getting worse and worse. Please help us breathe!

We need to protect our health and our children's health.

WE want to breath clean air—without wheezing and coughing. House Bill 1261 provides state's leaders and residents an opportunity to reduce carbon pollution, improve our air quality, and help protect the health for Coloradans today and for the next generation.

PLEASE support house bill 1261 and act to fight climate change NOW. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Most Sincerely,

Catherine Ebeling

Catherine Ebeling, MSN/PHN
thenutritionwatchdog.com
Simple Smart Nutrition, LLC
Ph: 314 369 6400

The Fat Burning Kitchen
The Diabetes Fix
Healthy Living Made Easy
The Top 101 Anti-Aging Superfoods
The Anti-Aging Superfoods Recipe Book
The Flat Belly Kitchen

"Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things."

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