



OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL

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April 24, 2018

Honorable Committee Members,

On behalf of the City and County of Broomfield, the City Council is in strong support of HB 18-1352 - 1,000 foot setback from school property. Currently, the Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission (COGCC) rules require oil and gas production facilities and wells to be located at least 1,000 feet from school buildings.

This legislation changes the setback requirement to state that it applies to the school property line and not the school building. An exemption would be provided if a school commences operations near oil and gas facilities or wells that are already in use or permitted. Measuring from the school boundary would mean that playgrounds, athletic fields, outdoor lunch areas, modular classrooms, and other areas used on a daily basis by school children are now included in the law.

The City and County of Broomfield has been working diligently on Oil and Gas issues for over 5 years. The City Council convened a multi-disciplined task force that was comprised of Broomfield residents, who put thousands of hours into drafting a new Oil and Gas Comprehensive Plan Chapter and recommended rules. They have gathered baseline data on air quality and analyzed regulations from other municipalities. The Oil and Gas Comprehensive Plan Chapter includes recommendations like air, soil, and groundwater monitoring, environmental assessments mitigate impacts, oil and gas well pad siting analysis, greater financial assurances from operators, larger minimum distance between homes and drilling, and disclosure of chemicals that could be brought on site.

As the work continues at the local level, and given that the state of Colorado has ultimate authority over oil and gas drilling/operations, we respectfully request the passage of HB 1352 as a small common sense step to provide additional protection for our kids.

We join with our neighbors and the Colorado Municipal League in support of HB1352.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Randy Ahrens", is written over a long, thin horizontal line that spans across the width of the page.

Mayor Randy Ahrens and the City and County of Broomfield City Council