

Senate Health & Human Services

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SB25-055 Youth Involvement in Environmental Justice

Typed Text of Testimony Submitted

Name, Position, Representing	Typed Text of Testimony
Heidi Leathwood For 350 Colorado	Thank you Chair Mullica and members of the Committee for the opportunity to testify. I urge you on behalf of 350 Colorado to vote yes on SB25-055. I applaud and thank Senators Winter and Marchman for sponsoring this bill. Youth are impacted by environmental issues but do not have a vote for elected officials. This bill fills an important gap in procedural justice for the people alive today that will suffer the longest from the existential issue of our time: climate change. They have a powerful voice, as the world has seen from millions of youth marching around the world to demand climate action. Now they need a seat at the table where decisions are made. As a grassroots climate organization we can see every day the impacts climate change has on the mental health of young people, not to mention their physical health. In fact, the fear that government is not doing enough to address climate change has been shown to be a major source of anxiety in young people. By giving young people a voice on the environmental justice advisory board, the board and the CDPHE can receive meaningful guidance from a segment of society that is unfairly sidelined in policy choices. Please vote yes on SB25-055.