

TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO HB 20-1070

HB 1070 is monumentally stupid, endangers public health, prioritizes oil and gas industry profits over public health, is in direct conflict with SB 181 and it must be soundly defeated. Colorado Republicans, along with Representative Buck and Weld County Commissioners have conspired with the oil and gas industry to endanger public health by putting forth this stupid and dangerous bill. In fact, banning fracking in Colorado and prioritizing public health over oil and gas profits pursuant to SB 181 is worth a lawsuit against Weld County. Fracking poses an existential threat to public health and release into the air and inject into the ground, solutions containing known carcinogens endangering our health, safety and welfare. In March of 2012, Physicians for Social Responsibility called for a moratorium on fracking in order to protect human health and the environment. New York, Vermont and Maryland have all banned fracking because of the existential threats to the environment and public health. In 2019 Washington became the fourth state to ban fracking. Colorado needs to be the fifth state to ban fracking. Fracking results in air, water and soil contamination; species extinction; ozone depletion; climate change and necessitates medical treatment for skyrocketing cases of asthma, cancer, immune system diseases, cognitive deficiencies, miscarriages and birth defects. So, while the profits from fracking go to the oil and drilling companies, the costs of cleanup, adverse environmental and health consequences will be borne by the people Colorado. Weld County has over 23,000 active fracking wells and Colorado must sue Weld County for damages to health, safety and welfare. HB 1070 prioritizes oil and gas industry profits over public health in direct conflict with SB 181 and it must be voted down.

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