

Counties & Commissioners Acting Together

Attachment 1

Steering Committee Members

- > Deb Gardner, Boulder
- > Tim Mauck, Clear Creek (co-chair)
- > Kathy Chandler-Henry, Eagle
- > Rich Cimino, Grand
- > John Messner, Gunnison
- > Ben Tisdell, Ouray
- > Rachel Richards, Pitkin (co-chair)
- > Tim Corrigan, Routt
- > Hilary Cooper, San Miguel
- > Karn Stiegelmeier, Summit

Members

- > Steve O'Doriso, Adams
- > Eva Henry, Adams
- > Nancy Jackson, Arapahoe
- > Michael Whiting, Archuleta
- > Cindy Doménico, Boulder
- > Elise Jones, Boulder
- > Sam Taylor, Broomfield
- > Keith Baker, Chaffee County
- > Randy Wheelock, Clear Creek
- > Jill Ryan, Eagle
- > Jeanne McQueeney, Eagle
- > Gail Watson, Gilpin
- > Ron Engels, Gilpin
- > Linda Isenhardt, Gilpin
- > Jonathan Houck, Gunnison
- > Julie Westendorff, La Plata
- > Gwen Lachelt, La Plata
- > Steve Child, Pitkin
- > George Newman, Pitkin
- > Greg Poschman, Pitkin
- > Patti Clapper, Pitkin
- > Peter McKay, San Juan
- > Joan May, San Miguel
- > Kris Holstrom, San Miguel
- > Thomas Davison, Summit
- > Dan Gibbs, Summit

March 23, 2016

Dear Chairwoman Ginal,

On behalf of Counties and Commissioners Acting Together (CCAT), we are proud to offer support for HB 17-1256 regarding Oil and Gas Setbacks from Schools. CCAT is a group of counties and individual commissioners across Colorado working to provide a unified, nonpartisan and independent voice at the statehouse. Collectively CCAT represents all regions of the state and the diversity of issues facing every corner of Colorado.

CCAT Commissioners support the legislation as introduced, as it is a clarification of current Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission rules regarding setback distances from schools and child care facilities. Current rules state that oil and gas operations must be located at least 1,000 feet from school and child care facilities in order to mitigate health and environmental impacts. While that 1,000 foot setback is appropriate for current facilities, it does not take into account future buildings or use of outdoor space for athletics or other activities. Furthermore, the introduced bill contemplates the new setback distance only for new oil and gas operations, and grandfathers in operations actively in use or permitted for operations.

Members of CCAT represent a broad group of counties across the state, including counties with oil and gas production capacity. Specifically, San Miguel County located in the Paradox Basin area has been home to oil and gas production in past years, and currently has several active operations. Commissioners in San Miguel and other mountain and frontier counties see HB 17-1256 as a modest change to allow for the growth of schools, while protecting the public health of school or child care students and staff, in addition to the greater community.

Thank you for your consideration of this important issue, and we urge a yes vote on HB 17-1256.

Rachel Richards
Pitkin County Commissioner
Co-Chair, CCAT Steering &
Legislative Committee

Tim Mauck
Clear Creek County Commissioner
Co-Chair, CCAT Steering &
Legislative Committee