

Second Regular Session  
Sixty-ninth General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 14-0180.01 Thomas Morris x4218

HOUSE BILL 14-1297

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HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

**Ginal**, Becker, Fischer, Foote, Hulinghorst, Salazar, Schafer, Singer

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

**Aguilar**, Jones, Kefalas

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House Committees

Health, Insurance, & Environment

Senate Committees

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A BILL FOR AN ACT

101      **CONCERNING AN ANALYSIS TO DETERMINE WHETHER OIL AND GAS**  
102            **OPERATIONS HAVE AN IMPACT ON HUMAN HEALTH ALONG THE**  
103            **FRONT RANGE.**

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**Bill Summary**

*(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <http://www.leg.state.co.us/billsummaries>.)*

The bill directs the department of public health and environment to conduct an analysis of human health and quality of life within the counties of Larimer, Weld, Boulder, and Adams with the intent of understanding any possible effects of oil and gas operations on

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.  
*Capital letters indicate new material to be added to existing statute.*  
*Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.*

communities within these counties. The department must consult with a newly created scientific oversight committee regarding the design and conduct of the analysis and preparation of interim and final reports on the analysis. The analysis will be conducted in 2 stages. Stage 1 will:

- ! Include a review of existing medical literature from peer-reviewed scientific publications on the effects of oil and gas operations on human health and quality of life;
- ! Identify conditions of interest that existing medical literature indicates might be related to oil and gas operations; and
- ! Culminate in a written report due December 1, 2014, and presented orally to committees of the general assembly by January 30, 2015.

Stage 2 will include institutional review board (IRB) approval, surveys, and case studies as follows:

- ! Tier 1 will include IRB approval by December 31, 2014; mailed and on-line surveys with individuals in the identified communities; and an interim report due January 1, 2016, and orally presented to committees of the general assembly by January 30, 2016; and
- ! Tier 2 will include IRB approval by February 1, 2016; case-control studies on at least 2 relevant conditions of interest identified in tier 1; and a final report due January 1, 2017, and presented orally to committees of the general assembly by January 30, 2017.

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1 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 25-1-122.3 as  
3 follows:

4 **25-1-122.3. Analysis of the possible effect of oil and gas**  
5 **operations on human health and quality of life - definitions - scientific**  
6 **oversight committee - creation - definition - repeal.** (1) IN  
7 CONSULTATION WITH THE SCIENTIFIC OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE, THE  
8 DEPARTMENT SHALL:

9 (a) ANALYZE THE HEALTH AND QUALITY OF LIFE OF RESIDENTS IN  
10 SELECTED COMMUNITIES TO UNDERSTAND WHETHER THERE ARE ANY  
11 EFFECTS OF OIL AND GAS OPERATIONS ON THE RESIDENTS OF THESE

1 COMMUNITIES AND PREPARE INTERIM AND FINAL REPORTS SUMMARIZING  
2 THE ANALYSIS; AND

3 (b) DESIGN AND CONDUCT THE ANALYSIS, INCLUDING THE  
4 SELECTION OF COMMUNITIES THAT WILL BE THE SUBJECT OF THE ANALYSIS.  
5 THE SELECTED COMMUNITIES MUST BE LOCATED WITHIN THE FOLLOWING  
6 COUNTIES: LARIMER, WELD, BOULDER, AND ADAMS.

7 (2) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL CONDUCT THE ANALYSIS IN TWO  
8 STAGES AS FOLLOWS:

9 (a) STAGE 1 MUST, AT A MINIMUM:

10 (I) INCLUDE A REVIEW OF EXISTING, RELEVANT LITERATURE FROM  
11 PEER-REVIEWED, SCIENTIFIC PUBLICATIONS ON THE EFFECTS OF OIL AND  
12 GAS OPERATIONS ON HUMAN HEALTH AND QUALITY OF LIFE;

13 (II) IDENTIFY RELEVANT CONDITIONS OF INTEREST THAT EXISTING  
14 PEER-REVIEWED, SCIENTIFIC LITERATURE INDICATES MIGHT BE RELATED  
15 TO EXPOSURE TO OIL AND GAS OPERATIONS; AND

16 (III) BE SUMMARIZED IN A WRITTEN REPORT PREPARED PURSUANT  
17 TO SUBSECTION (3) OF THIS SECTION BY DECEMBER 1, 2014, AND  
18 PRESENTED ORALLY BY JANUARY 30, 2015, TO THE COMMITTEES SPECIFIED  
19 IN SUBSECTION (3) OF THIS SECTION.

20 (b) STAGE 2 MUST, AT A MINIMUM, INCLUDE SURVEYS AND CASE  
21 STUDIES AS FOLLOWS:

22 (I) TIER 1 MUST INCLUDE:

23 (A) IRB APPROVAL BY DECEMBER 31, 2014;

24 (B) SURVEYS OF INDIVIDUALS IN THE IDENTIFIED COMMUNITIES TO  
25 OBTAIN INFORMATION ON THE HEALTH AND QUALITY OF LIFE OF THOSE  
26 SURVEYED. THE SURVEYS MUST BE INDIVIDUALLY GEOCODED TO ENSURE  
27 NO DUPLICATION IN RESPONSES, BE MAILED TO DESIRED RESPONDENTS,

1 HAVE ONLINE RESPONSE CAPABILITIES, AND BE SUMMARIZED IN AN  
2 INTERIM WRITTEN REPORT PREPARED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (3) OF  
3 THIS SECTION BY JANUARY 1, 2016, AND PRESENTED ORALLY BY JANUARY  
4 30, 2016, TO THE COMMITTEES SPECIFIED IN SUBSECTION (3) OF THIS  
5 SECTION; AND

6 (II) TIER 2 MUST, AT A MINIMUM:

7 (A) INCLUDE IRB APPROVAL BY FEBRUARY 1, 2016;

8 (B) INCLUDE CASE-CONTROL STUDIES ON AT LEAST TWO RELEVANT  
9 CONDITIONS OF INTEREST THAT WERE IDENTIFIED IN TIER 1 BY THE  
10 SCIENTIFIC OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE; AND

11 (C) BE SUMMARIZED IN A FINAL WRITTEN REPORT PREPARED  
12 PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (3) OF THIS SECTION BY JANUARY 1, 2017, AND  
13 PRESENTED ORALLY BY JANUARY 30, 2017, TO THE COMMITTEES SPECIFIED  
14 IN SUBSECTION (3) OF THIS SECTION.

15 (3) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE  
16 SCIENTIFIC OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE, PREPARE AND PUBLISH THE WRITTEN  
17 REPORTS SPECIFIED IN SUBSECTION (2) OF THIS SECTION ON ITS WEB SITE  
18 AND PROVIDE A COPY OF THE REPORTS TO: THE HOUSE OF  
19 REPRESENTATIVES' COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH CARE AND HUMAN  
20 SERVICES AND COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, INSURANCE, AND ENVIRONMENT  
21 OR THEIR SUCCESSOR COMMITTEES; THE SENATE'S COMMITTEE ON HEALTH  
22 AND HUMAN SERVICES OR ITS SUCCESSOR COMMITTEE; AND GOVERNOR'S  
23 OFFICE. THE FINAL WRITTEN REPORT MUST INDICATE WHETHER A  
24 STATISTICALLY SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCE IN THE OCCURRENCE OF A  
25 CONDITION OF INTEREST IS FOUND BASED ON THE ANALYSIS CONDUCTED  
26 PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (2) OF THIS SECTION AND WHETHER A MORE  
27 IN-DEPTH STUDY IS RECOMMENDED. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL SUBMIT THE

1 REPORT CONTAINING THE FINDINGS AND ANY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR  
2 PEER REVIEW FOR PUBLICATION IN A SCIENTIFIC JOURNAL.

3 (4) (a) THERE IS HEREBY CREATED A SCIENTIFIC OVERSIGHT  
4 COMMITTEE TO WORK IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE DEPARTMENT  
5 REGARDING THE DESIGN AND CONDUCT OF THE ANALYSIS AND  
6 PREPARATION OF THE REPORTS REQUIRED PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION. THE  
7 COMMITTEE CONSISTS OF THE FOLLOWING THIRTEEN MEMBERS:

8 (I) NINE VOTING MEMBERS APPOINTED AS FOLLOWS:

9 (A) FOUR MEMBERS APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR, NO MORE  
10 THAN THREE OF WHOM MAY BE REGISTERED WITH THE SAME POLITICAL  
11 PARTY;

12 (B) ONE MEMBER APPOINTED BY THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF  
13 REPRESENTATIVES;

14 (C) ONE MEMBER APPOINTED BY THE MINORITY LEADER OF THE  
15 HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES;

16 (D) ONE MEMBER APPOINTED BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE;

17 (E) ONE MEMBER APPOINTED BY THE MINORITY LEADER OF THE  
18 SENATE; AND

19 (F) THE CHIEF MEDICAL OFFICER OF THE DEPARTMENT, OR HIS OR  
20 HER DESIGNEE, WHO MUST ALSO BE A PHYSICIAN, WHO IS THE CHAIR OF  
21 THE COMMITTEE; AND

22 (II) FOUR NONVOTING MEMBERS APPOINTED AS FOLLOWS:

23 (A) A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE COLORADO OIL AND GAS  
24 INDUSTRY, APPOINTED JOINTLY BY THE COLORADO STATEWIDE OIL AND  
25 GAS ASSOCIATIONS;

26 (B) A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE COLORADO ENVIRONMENTAL  
27 COMMUNITY, APPOINTED JOINTLY BY THE COLORADO STATEWIDE

1 ENVIRONMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS; AND

2 (C) A STATISTICIAN AND AN ECONOMIST, BOTH APPOINTED BY THE  
3 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION.

4 (b) ASIDE FROM THE CHAIR OF THE COMMITTEE, AT LEAST TWO  
5 APPOINTEES TO THE COMMITTEE MUST BE PHYSICIANS, AND THE  
6 REMAINING APPOINTEES MUST HAVE DEMONSTRATED EXPERTISE AND AT  
7 LEAST A MASTER'S OR DOCTORAL DEGREE IN NO FEWER THAN ONE OF THE  
8 FOLLOWING SCIENTIFIC OR HEALTH-RELATED FIELDS:

9 (I) PUBLIC HEALTH;

10 (II) ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH;

11 (III) EPIDEMIOLOGY;

12 (IV) TOXICOLOGY; OR

13 (V) BEHAVIORAL OR SOCIAL SCIENCE.

14 (c) THE VOTING MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE SHALL NOT HAVE  
15 ANY DIRECT INVOLVEMENT OR PECUNIARY INTEREST IN, OR AFFILIATION  
16 WITH, THE OIL AND GAS INDUSTRY.

17 (d) (I) THE APPOINTING AUTHORITIES SHALL MAKE THEIR  
18 APPOINTMENTS BY JULY 1, 2014, AND SHALL CONFER PRIOR TO MAKING  
19 THE APPOINTMENTS TO ENSURE THAT THEIR APPOINTEES SATISFY THE  
20 CRITERIA SPECIFIED IN PARAGRAPH (b) OF THIS SUBSECTION (5). THE  
21 COMMITTEE SHALL HOLD ITS INITIAL MEETING BY JULY 15, 2014.

22 (II) AN APPOINTING AUTHORITY MAY REMOVE AN APPOINTEE FOR  
23 CAUSE. IN THE EVENT OF A VACANCY, WHETHER DUE TO REMOVAL FOR  
24 CAUSE OR ANY OTHER REASON, THE APPOINTING AUTHORITY THAT MADE  
25 THE ORIGINAL APPOINTMENT OR REAPPOINTMENT MAY APPOINT A  
26 REPLACEMENT TO FILL THE VACANCY.

27 (5) AS USED IN THIS SECTION:

1           (a) "IRB" MEANS AN INSTITUTIONAL REVIEW BOARD ESTABLISHED  
2           IN ACCORDANCE WITH, AND FOR THE PURPOSES EXPRESSED, IN 45 CFR  
3           PART 46.

4           (b) "OIL AND GAS OPERATIONS" HAS THE MEANING ESTABLISHED  
5           IN SECTION 34-60-103 (6.5), C.R.S.

6           (c) "OPERATOR" HAS THE MEANING ESTABLISHED IN SECTION  
7           34-60-103 (6.8), C.R.S.

8           (d) "SCIENTIFIC OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE" MEANS THE SCIENTIFIC  
9           OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE CREATED IN SUBSECTION (4) OF THIS SECTION.

10          (6) THIS SECTION IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 1, 2017.

11          **SECTION 2. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds,  
12          determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate  
13          preservation of the public peace, health, and safety.