



CACI

COLORADO ASSOCIATION
OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY

HB14-1297
Vote NO on HB 1297

HB 1297 raises a number of questions about the intent and validity of the proposed study:

- **The bill proposes a public opinion survey, not a scientific study.** The legislation proposes a self-report survey of residents in these counties about their health and quality of life, yet the title of the bill is “Concerning an analysis to determine whether oil and gas operations have an impact on human health along the Front Range.” The legislation itself contains the assumption that any negative health or quality of life issues reported by respondents of the survey are attributable to oil and gas operations. Consequently, the bill contains an inherent bias that any residents’ negative health and quality-of life issues will be solely attributable to oil-and-gas operations.
- **The proposed analysis has a predetermined outcome.** Following the Tier 1 surveys on health and quality-of-life, at least “two relevant conditions of interest” must be studied in Tier 2. Even if Tier 1 results in no findings that are out of the ordinary or inconsistent with statewide or national data, the study must move on to a Tier 2 study of two “relevant conditions of interest.” In its premise, therefore, the bill mandates that two conditions require Tier 2 study. This requirement spotlights the clear bias of HB 1297.
- **The political appointment of the “Scientific Oversight Committee” is suspect.** The bill requires that a Scientific Oversight Committee be comprised of political appointees. The purpose of a scientific study should be to gather evidence, which is then subjected to rigorous analysis. An oversight committee should depoliticize the emotion and rhetoric that surround an issue by supervising a scientifically sound study of the issue. HB 1297, however, would intentionally politicize its oversight committee.

CACI and its members support scientifically sound studies and the promulgation of regulations based on such studies. Clearly, HB 1297 will not produce such a study.

HB 1297 is designed to draw the conclusion that oil-and-gas operations negatively affect the health and quality-of-life of Colorado residents.

The bias that exists in this proposal has the potential to have negative repercussions on Colorado as a whole, and CACI urges your opposition to HB 1297.

VOTE NO on HB 1297!

Contact: Carly West, Governmental Affairs Representative, CACI, 303-866-9622 or cwest@cochamber.com