

2025-2026 #313 Final Clean

*Be it Enacted by the People of the State of Colorado:*

**SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 34-60-114.1 as follows:

**34-60-114.1. Strict liability for damages caused by oil and gas operations – short title – purposes and findings – definition.** (1) **Short title.** THE SHORT TITLE OF THIS SECTION IS THE “COLORADO OIL AND GAS OPERATIONS PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY ACT”.

(2) **Purposes and findings.** THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF COLORADO HEREBY FIND AND DECLARE THAT:

(a) THE PURPOSE OF THIS SECTION IS TO ENSURE THE PROTECTION OF PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY, PROPERTY, WILDLIFE, AND THE ENVIRONMENT BY ESTABLISHING STRICT LIABILITY FOR DAMAGES CAUSED BY OIL AND GAS OPERATIONS IN THE STATE OF COLORADO, INCLUDING EMISSIONS OF HARMFUL AIR POLLUTANTS, HARM TO WILDLIFE OR HABITAT, SPILLS OR RELEASES OF TOXIC CHEMICALS, FIRES, EXPLOSIONS, OR EARTHQUAKES; AND

(b) IT IS NECESSARY TO HOLD ANY OPERATOR, OWNER, OR PRODUCER ACCOUNTABLE FOR ANY HARM CAUSED TO PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY, PROPERTY, WILDLIFE, OR THE ENVIRONMENT BY OIL AND GAS OPERATIONS.

(3) **Definition.** AS USED IN THIS SECTION, UNLESS CONTEXT OTHERWISE REQUIRES, “STRICT LIABILITY” MEANS LIABILITY WITHOUT REGARD TO FAULT, NEGLIGENCE, OR INTENT.

(4) **Strict liability for damages.** NOTWITHSTANDING ANY PROVISION OF LAW TO THE CONTRARY, STRICT LIABILITY APPLIES TO ANY OPERATOR, OWNER, OR PRODUCER FOR ANY DAMAGES, INCLUDING PERSONAL INJURY, PROPERTY DAMAGE, AND ENVIRONMENTAL HARM, RESULTING FROM THEIR OIL AND GAS OPERATIONS.

**SECTION 2. Applicability.** This Act applies to conduct occurring on or after the effective date of this measure.

**SECTION 3. Effective date.** This Act takes effect upon official declaration of the governor and is self-executing.