Resolution No. R-018-103

THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF DOUGLAS, COLORADO

RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE PASSAGE OF PROPOSITION 112 TITLED "SETBACK REQUIREMENT FOR OIL AND GAS DEVELOPMENT".

WHEREAS, current law contains reasonable setbacks for oil and gas development that recognizes both the need for important setbacks as well as the need for reasonable access to valuable oil and gas interests: and

- WHEREAS, Proposition 112 is a Colorado citizen-initiated amendment to the Colorado Constitution that proposes to substantially increase required setbacks from homes, schools, hospitals and other structures by at least 2,500 feet instead of the current minimum 500 feet from homes and 1,000 feet for schools; and
- WHEREAS, voters will have the opportunity at the November 6, 2018, statewide general election to defeat the unrealistic Proposition 112 and the numerous intended and unintended consequences of such extreme measures; and
- WHEREAS, Colorado is a major energy-producing state, ranked fifth in the nation for natural gas production and seventh in oil production, according to U.S. Government data; and
- WHEREAS, oil and natural gas development is a critical sector of the Colorado economy, supporting jobs and supplying locally produced and affordable energy to households and businesses across Colorado; and
- WHEREAS, more than 232,000 jobs in Colorado are supported by oil and natural gas development, equivalent to 6.5 percent of total employment in the state, according to a 2017 study by the accounting firm of PricewaterhouseCoopers; and
- WHEREAS, Douglas County is home to over 660 direct industry employees, who generate over \$83 million in wages with an average salary of \$125,274; and
- **WHEREAS**, oil and natural gas development in Colorado generates almost \$1.2 billion in tax revenue, according to a 2015 study by the University of Colorado's Leeds School of Business; and
- **WHEREAS**, Proposition 112 will reduce the economic benefits the oil and natural gas industry provides for the state, and may result in the loss of jobs, lower payments to mineral owners, and reduced tax revenue that is used for local schools and other governmental services and programs; and

WHEREAS, while the Board recognizes the setbacks being proposed by Proposition 112 are related to concerns for the safety of Colorado residents in areas of oil and gas development, Colorado is widely recognized as a national leader in developing health safety and environmental protections; and

WHEREAS, the setbacks proposed by Proposition 112 would make it impossible for this industry to continue in Colorado and the loss of Colorado's energy sector would devastate the state's economy, cripple state and local budgets, and threaten the livelihoods of working families; and

WHEREAS, provisions of state law allow Douglas County to put forth this resolution as a statement of opposition to the ballot question;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF DOUGLAS, COLORADO, that the Board opposes the passage of Proposition 112 and urges our citizens to vote against this ballot question at the General Election.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 9th day of October 2018, in Castle Rock, Douglas County, Colorado.

THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF DOUGLAS, COLORADO

BY:

TORA L. THOMAS. Chair

ATTEST:

EMILY WRENN, Clerk to the Board