

News Release



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Independent Natural Gas Producers Stress Importance of Access to Political Process for Energy Workers

IPAMS to Launch the "Vote from Home Industry Voter Registration Pilot"

(DENVER)- The Independent Petroleum Association of Mountain States (IPAMS) today launched the *IPAMS Vote from Home* voter registration program. IPAMS is seeking to maximize opportunities for civic participation from the over 70,000 individuals employed by the oil and natural gas industry in Colorado.

"Long hours, shift schedules and long-term field deployment makes getting to the polls on Election Day nearly impossible for many of our member company employees," said Jon Bargas, IPAMS Director of Public Affairs. "Using Colorado's allowance of absentee ballots, our program will allow more men and women in our industry to vote in this very important election."

IPAMS will provide registration opportunities for their member company employees by attending safety and company education meetings. A new Colorado voter form combined both the standard voter registration form with the absentee ballot request form, making voting from remote locations even more convenient.

Bargas continued, "We owe it to our employees around Colorado to provide opportunities that maximize their ability to participate in the political process. We can't and won't tell our workers how to vote, but we'll sure tell them how important it is that they cast a ballot," concluded Bargas.

IPAMS will invite other industry trade organizations to combine resources and help to maximize the opportunities for oil and natural gas worker civic participation.

More information on IPAMS Voter Education Initiative can be found at www.ipams.org

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The Independent Petroleum Association of Mountain States (IPAMS), founded in 1974, is a non-profit trade association representing more than 400 independent oil and natural gas producers, service and supply companies, banking and financial institutions and industry consultants committed to environmentally responsible oil and natural gas development in the Intermountain West. More information on IPAMS and its members is available at www.ipams.org.