## policy update

### by Emily Roberts, CBSA Vice President

#### **FEDERAL UPDATE**

#### **CBSA HOSTS CONGRESSMAN JASON CROW (CO-06)**

This month CBSA partnered with Fitzsimons Innovation Community, Gates Biomanufacturing Facility and Sharklet Technologies to host Congressman Jason Crow (CO-06) for a campus tour and roundtable discussion. It was a great opportunity to highlight the growth and development taking place at Fitzsimons and show how some of that space is being used to foster and accelerate innovation.

The event also included a roundtable discussion about the collaborative life sciences ecosystem we have in Colorado. Companies were able to share their success stories, as well as some of the hurdles they face as they work to bring new treatments and technologies to market.

A member of the New Democrat Coalition, Rep. Crow conveyed his commitment to pro-innovation and pro-economic growth policies and talked about focusing his efforts on removing regulatory barriers and making strategic investments

CBSA looks forward to partnering with Congressman Crow to continue growing the life sciences sector in Colorado.

to advance those goals.







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#### HELP US END THE MEDICAL DEVICE TAX



CBSA continues to strongly advocate for permanent repeal of the medical device excise tax, a 2.3% tax on the sale of certain medical technology that was enacted as part of the Affordable Care Act. Since its implementation, the tax has stunted medical innovation and resulted in the loss or delayed creation of jobs, reduced R&D, and slowed capital expansion.

Large bipartisan majorities in Congress agree that the medical device tax is bad policy. In fact, since its implementation, Congress has suspended the tax twice

for a total of four years. These suspensions were helpful in the short term, but Colorado companies make multi-year investments in R&D and infrastructure and to do so they need long-term certainty to sustain innovation and take the next leap forward in patient care.

Time is running out. If Congress does not act this year, the medical tax will be reinstated in 2020 and billions of dollars will be diverted away from research and development for breakthrough technologies and treatments.

Help us tell Congress that it's time to get rid of this costly tax on innovation. CLICK HERE TO TAKE ACTION NOW!

Email your members of congress today and urge them to support full repeal of the device tax.

## CBSA MEETS WITH BETSY MARKEY, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL TRADE

In August CBSA President & CEO Jennifer Jones Paton and Vice
President Emily Roberts met with Betsy Markey, Executive Director of the Office of Economic Development and International Trade (OEDIT).

The meeting offered a chance to introduce the association and share our top priorities, particularly as they relate to increasing access to capital for our members.

We discussed a number of focus areas, including the value of the Advanced Industries Accelerator Grant Program and the Advanced Industries Investment Tax Credit and our efforts to educate new legislators about these programs in the years leading up to reauthorization.

We also shared some of the challenges our companies face as they look to grow and how the association is working to explore new sources of funding to retain growth companies in the state.

CBSA has had a strong relationship with OEDIT for years, and we're excited to find additional ways to work together to foster and grow Colorado's bioscience industry.

#### **GET INVOLVED**

If you're interested in getting more involved in CBSA's state or federal advocacy efforts, please contact Emily Roberts.

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