

State and Federal Policy Updates

May 2018



END OF THE SECOND REGULAR SESSION OF THE 71ST SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

After 120 days, the Second Regular Session of the 71st session of the General Assembly ended on May 9, 2018.

The successful passage of [HB18-1135](#) - Extend Advanced Industry Export Acceleration Program sponsored by Reps. Tracy Kraft Tharp (D-Arapahoe) and Jim Wilson (R-Salida) and Sen. Jack Tate (R-Arapahoe) delivered a great victory for the bioscience industry. This bill extends the advanced industries export acceleration program to businesses seeking to expand their business in international markets. It is an important, proactive bill, that CBSA actively supported for our members and the entire bioscience industry. We greatly appreciate and thank the bill sponsors for their commitment, leadership, voice and support to the bioscience community.

Also, this year CBSA and industry partners were successful in defeating harmful transparency measures introduced at the legislator. These measures threatened bioscience innovation in Colorado and failed to provide the relief patients need when they pick up their next prescription. On behalf of the Colorado BioScience Association, our members, and the bioscience industry, we thank the Colorado General Assembly and those leaders who opposed the harmful transparency measures. While these measures were ultimately defeated, we remain committed to working throughout the summer with the Colorado General Assembly on solutions to help ensure patients have affordable access to therapies and needed medicines.

Our successes at the Capitol this legislative session would not have been possible without the impactful voices of our lobbyists at Colorado Legislative Services, industry partners, our members and the instrumental leadership of the legislature. To see a list of all the policy that CBSA engaged in this legislative session click [here](#).

Jennifer Jones
CBSA Vice President



TRUMP ADMINISTRATION AND FEDERAL DRUG PRICING POLICIES



CBSA continues to follow and engage the Colorado Delegation in discussions on potential drug pricing policies at the federal level.

This month President Trump unveiled his [administration's plan](#) to help make prescription drugs more affordable for patients. The blueprint called "American Patients First"

builds on the president's 2019 budget proposal.

The administration seeks to accomplish these primary priorities with their comprehensive blueprint:

- Increase competition in drug markets
- Give Medicare Part D better tools to negotiate discounts
- Provide incentives for lower list prices
- Lower patient out-of-pocket costs.

After reviewing the policies listed in the blueprint and talking with our national partners we believe that some of the proposals could ultimately make medicines more affordable for patients, and others would limit patients' access to innovative treatments. Click [here](#) to read an expansive list of ways the Trump Administration would accomplish the primary these priorities.

At CBSA we continue to remain dedicated to patients; to helping people live longer, healthier lives. That's why we advocate for a holistic, collaborative approach to the drug price conversation. We look forward to continuing our work with our national partners, CO delegation, and our members to ensure we are involved and advocating for our industry as this process unfolds over the next year (or two). It is CBSA's primary goal to ensure our priorities are heard and that we encourage bioscience innovation in Colorado.

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NEED TO REGISTER TO VOTE?

The primary election is on June 26th. If you need to register to vote or update your voting records you can do so here. You can register online with a valid Colorado driver's license or ID.

CHINA TARIFFS

Over the past few weeks CBSA has advocated to the CO Delegation our concern with the recent USTR announcement to impose tariffs on almost \$3 billion worth of medical technology as well as pharmaceutical ingredients and products that could impact manufacturing costs for affordable, FDA-approved generic and biosimilar medicines as part of the Section 301 list.

The decision to impose tariffs on medical technology could hurt U.S. manufacturing, negatively impact our ability to compete globally, and potentially increase healthcare costs; resulting in limits on patient access to life-saving technology. We will continue to work with our national industry partners to ensure our industry's voice is heard and protected. We'll keep you updated you as the process unfolds. To learn more about our work on this click [here](#).

WHAT IF COLORADO SCHOOLS WERE #1?

The Colorado BioScience Association partnered with Colorado Succeeds and other Colorado business leaders on a business guide for Colorado's next governor.

The business guide looks at "What if Colorado's Schools were #1?" To take a look at the guide and learn more information click [here](#).

COLORADANS FOR COLORADANS TRANSPORTATION COALITION

At Colorado BioScience Association we know the importance of quality transportation for our state and its impact on our industry.

CBSA recently joined a statewide transportation coalition, Coloradans for Coloradans. This bipartisan statewide coalition of business leaders, mayors and transportation advocates are gathering signatures to place a 0.62 percent sales tax increase to invest in Colorado's transportation system on the November ballot.

According to state budget documents, the Colorado Department of Transportation currently has a \$9 billion backlog of projects across the state. In addition to funding for state highways, a key component of the coalition's plan would provide financial support for regional projects throughout Colorado as chosen by local communities, including alternative means of transit.

More about the initiative:

- The initiative will raise the state sales tax by 0.62%
- This will raise \$766 million in the first year and allow CDOT to complete \$6 billion in projects
- 45% of revenue will go to CDOT (source for repayment of bonds)
- 20% of revenue will go to cities
- 20% of revenue will go to counties
- 15% of revenue will go to multimodal
- The funding at the local level is flexible and may be spent on the most pressing needs as determined by community
- There is a 20-year sunset on this initiative. The tax won't last forever, nor should it
- This initiative will cost the average Coloradan \$130 a year (average driver now pays \$468 a year in repairs because of potholes, etc.)

You'll find more information on the initiative [here](#).

CBSA will continue to stay involved and keep our membership apprised of developments. To get involved or to learn more you can contact [Jennifer Jones](#).