



## **Testimony on Senate Bill 10, Repeal Ban on Local Government Regulation of Plastics**

**Senate Local Government Committee  
February 4, 2020**

Thank you, Madam Chair and Members of the Committee. My name is Emily Roberts, and I am Vice President at the Colorado BioScience Association.

The Colorado BioScience Association, or CBSA, represents over 720 life sciences companies and organizations across the state and tens of thousands of researchers and entrepreneurs. From concept to commercialization, our members work every day to drive global health innovations that reduce health care costs and improve patient outcomes.

CBSA is opposed to this bill, as it would give local governments the authority to ban any kind of single-use plastics. We're extremely concerned that these local regulations could include life-saving medicines, medical devices and equipment, pharmacy equipment, and supplies – products that patients rely on - and many of which are highly regulated by the US FDA.

Specifications for materials used in medical products, packaging, and delivery systems have rigorous requirements to ensure the product and its individual components are safe, reliable, and maintain integrity.

Local regulations on single-use plastics could impact all aspects of biomedical research, development, and manufacturing and ultimately impact everyone in Colorado.

- For instance, the biomedical research field utilizes plastic pipettes, tubes, petri dishes and plates to maintain a sterile setup and avoid contamination.
- Plastic is used for blood bags, tubing, and separation kits that are essential for blood collection, blood processing, and the separation of blood components for blood transfusions and cellular therapies.
- Plastic casings are used for autoinjectors and syringes that deliver critical medicines to patients, including biologics used to treat chronic and life-threatening diseases.
- Disposable medical tools are used to treat patients every day, including everything from plastic gloves to bandages

This is by no means a comprehensive list, but I hope it gives you some sense of the breadth of medical products that could be impacted by local plastic bans.

We understand it is not the bill sponsor's intention to ban single-use plastics used in medical products and supplies. But if you are giving local governments the authority to create their own regulations, whatever that might be, it is critical that there is a statewide preemption for medicines.

I hope you will consider these concerns, and I urge you to vote no on Senate Bill 10.