

HB 19-1143



EMPOWERED CITIES AND TOWNS, UNITED FOR A STRONG COLORADO

SUSTAINABILITY

PLASTICS STRAWS UPON REQUEST

HB 19-1143: YOUR “NO” VOTE RESPECTFULLY REQUESTED

HB 19-1143 would preempt local governments from implementing meaningful regulations on single-use plastic straws within their communities. As public awareness has grown surrounding the environmental impact of single-use plastic products in recent years, some municipalities have been reevaluating the types of products that should be permitted into their waste stream - including plastic straws.

In 1993, the Colorado State Legislature passed HB 93-1318 which mandated that:

“No unit of local government shall require or prohibit the use or sale of specific types of plastic materials or products or restrict or mandate containers, packaging, or labeling for any consumer products.”

This antiquated statute is out-of-date and prohibits elected officials in Colorado from responding to the priorities of their constituents.

While HB 19-1143 offers a baseline standard to help reduce waste, the bill offers a throng of exemptions that will leave some local communities and their residents dissatisfied. That is why it is critical to remove the preemption language in the bill so that local communities can enact more restrictive measures if necessary.

HB 19-1143:

- Exempts all straw dispensers, fast food drive-thru windows and prepackaged items.
- Offers no oversight or enforcement mechanism to make sure restaurants are complying with the statute.

CML is ready and willing to discuss the implementation of statewide standards concerning plastic products where warranted but removing the state preemption language must be part of the conversation. **Please Vote “No” on HB 19-1143.**

February 22, 2019