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LEAGUE

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HB 21-1162

MANAGEMENT OF PLASTIC PRODUCTS

YOUR “YES” VOTE RESPECTFULLY REQUESTED

Concern

Plastic litter, especially disposable, single-use plastics, has become an increasing problem in Colorado’s cities and towns and a cause of concern to all Coloradans. It litters municipal streets, parks, and waterways and clogs our storm-water management systems. Non-recyclable plastics contaminate both recycling and composting programs in our communities and place an enormous cost on our local governments to clean them up.

Current law (Section 25-17-104, C.R.S.) undermines the ability of our local governments to respond effectively to climate change and to the increasing problem of single use plastic pollution. It is local governments who are tasked with regulating the collection of plastic waste and who are responsible for its costly disposal. To address this issue, we shouldn’t be tying the hands of local government with a 30-year-old, outdated section of statute that does not speak to Colorado’s sustainability goals.

What House Bill 21-1162 does

Empowers local communities to take control of their plastic pollution by repealing the ban on local government regulation of plastics.

Reduces the use of toxic plastics by prohibiting restaurants and other food and retail establishments from using expanded polystyrene (foam) products (e.g. cups, plates and containers). Polystyrene is one of the most harmful plastics to human health and can be easily substituted with less toxic reusable, recyclable or compostable products.

Reduces plastic pollution by prohibiting retailers from providing single-use plastic carry-out bags and requiring stores to charge \$0.10 each for plastic and paper bags to reduce overall bag consumption.

CML requests your “YES” vote on House Bill 21-1162 as amended by the Senate State, Veteran, and Military Affairs Committee.

For more information contact Meghan MacKillop at 720-308-0672 or mmackillop@cml.org