



Tuesday, February 4, 2020

Members of the Senate Local Government Committee –

Thank you, Madame Chair and members of the committee, and thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony today. My name is Dorothy Jones and I am the Director of Public Affairs at the Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce. I am here on behalf of the Chamber, our 3,000 members and their 400,000 employees, to express our opposition of Senate Bill 10.

Our primary concern about this bill is that it will likely create a patchwork of local regulations, that becomes more challenging and costly for businesses to navigate. A restaurant with multiple locations will have one set of rules to follow in Boulder and another set in Centennial. It causes confusion for businesses, it's hard to track and it increases costs that ultimately get passed on to consumers.

It also increases the burden on businesses. Knowing that local governments could enact a ban at any time, businesses will be forced to monitor not one rulemaking body but multiple, tracking city councils across the state that may enact these bans.

And there are no exceptions. Consider the health care industry. We are concerned that some local ordinances could include banning life-saving medicines, medical equipment, pharmacy equipment, and supplies – products that patients rely on. While we understand it is not the bill sponsor's intention to ban single-use plastics used in medical products and supplies, a more meaningful approach would be to establish a statewide standard that can take into account different business uses and needs for exemptions.

We urge you to vote no on Senate Bill 10.