

## SUPPORT H.B. 15-1144

To: Members of the Colorado House of Representatives

From: Cathy Wanstrath, on behalf of the Personal Care Products Council, Betty Iverson, on behalf of Johnson & Johnson and Spencer Guthrie, on behalf of GSK

Subject: H.B. 15-1144, "Concerning Prohibition of Synthetic Plastic Microbeads in Personal Care Products"

SPONSORS: Rep. Dianne Primavera and Senator Nancy Todd

**BACKGROUND:** The Personal Care Products Council is the leading national trade association representing the global cosmetic and personal care products industry, and is composed of more than 600 member companies.

Microbeads are used in personal care cleansing products because of their safe and effective exfoliating properties. Microbeads are not irritating to human skin, even for people with sensitive skin, allergies or acne. However, the industry takes concerns regarding the presence of plastic microbeads in the environment very seriously. Many companies have voluntarily committed to discontinue formulating with plastic microbeads in personal care products, in favor of other viable alternatives (sand, apricot pits, oatmeal, etc.)

**WHAT THIS BILL DOES:** This bill bans the manufacture of products containing microbeads on and after January 1, 2018. This will provide sufficient time to meet other regulatory requirements (e.g., provisions of Federal Food, Drug & Cosmetic Act). There are formulation development requirements that must be met to ensure products are stable and suitable for use by consumers. Companies conduct safety testing and environmental safety assessments of alternatives and need ample time to do so.

**Sale** of these products to retailers is prohibited on and after January 1, 2019. An additional year is allowed for products that are categorized as drugs (e.g., acne formulations).

Very similar bills have passed in Illinois and New Jersey, and are under consideration in about twenty other states this year.

**ACTION REQUESTED:** Support for H.B. 15-1144. Thank you.