

Bill Status: Passed on 2nd Reading



Student Government

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO BOULDER

University of Colorado Student Government
Legislative Council

October 19, 2018

89 LCB 06 – Plastic Bottle Phase
Out

Sponsored by:	
Ciera Dykstra	Vice President
Sarah Altshuler	Senator of Arts and Sciences
Josh Ney	CUSG Legislative Council President
Samantha Martin	Senator of College of Arts and Sciences
Alexis-Brooke LoBianco	Senator of Leeds Business School
Jack Coughlin	Senator of School of Education
Winter Roybal	Senator of Environmental Design
Emma Perkins-Johnson	Representative-At-Large
Charlie LaBruzzy	Representative-At-Large
Max Pulitzer	Treasurer
Emmanuel Byarm	Representative-At-Large
Peter Heller	Senator of College of Engineering and Applied Science
Logan Dougherty	Senator of College of Music
Kendalia Spencer	Senator of College of Music
Kelly Gazarik	Senator of College of Engineering and Applied Science

Authored by:	
Liam Brodie	Sustainability Chair
Eric Temple	Director of Legislative Affairs
Ciera Dykstra	Vice President
Sarah Altshuler	Senator of Arts and Sciences
Caroline Wiygul	CU Sustainability Think Tank Member
Grace Kroeger	CU Sustainability Think Tank Member
Tzigane Martin	CU Sustainability Think Tank Member

A Bill to Phase Out The Use of Single-Use Plastic Bottles at Student Fee Funded and Regulated Events, and Facilities.

Bill History

The University of Colorado Boulder has been committed to its zero-waste initiative since 2004. The initiative commits CU to eliminating "all discharges to land, water or air that are a threat to planetary, human, animal or plant health," as defined in the CUSG Zero Waste Policy.

Phasing out single-use plastic bottles on the CU Boulder campus is not unprecedented. Previous councils have supported resolutions to phase out the sale of single-use plastic bottles across CU Boulder Campus in 2011 and 2014, as seen in Appendices A & B.

CU Student Government has recognized the urgency surrounding climate action and the University's goal to reach 90% waste diversion by 2025. CUSG has strongly encouraged university policy that reduces potential carbon emission and other waste, as seen in Appendix C. Furthermore, the access to compostable containers and water refill stations already provided by the University renders the distribution of single-use plastic bottles unnecessary.

Bill Summary

Since CU will be entering a ten year contract with its beverage suppliers in mid-2019, it is important that provisions which reflect the desire of the student body regarding single-use plastic bottles are heard and included. As well, it is crucial that future contracts and negotiations which deal with single-use plastic bottles reflect the University's dedication to becoming a zero-waste community.

Whereas, CUSG supports the campus-wide zero-waste policy to reach 90% waste diversion by 2025,

Whereas, this bill maintains CU student government's commitment to improving sustainable practices across campus reflecting the desires of the student body

Whereas, previous resolutions have supported and encouraged the phasing out of single-use plastic bottles,

Whereas, campus infrastructure supports reusable water bottles and compostable materials which negates the need for single-use plastic bottles,

Whereas, continued distribution of single-use plastic bottles directly opposes the University's commitment to sustainability,

THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED by the Legislative Council of the University of Colorado Boulder Student Government, **THAT:**

Section 1: The distribution of single-use plastic bottles, which are defined as plastic bottles that are used only once before being thrown away or recycled, at student fee funded events shall be prohibited after a one year phase out period. All student fee funded events shall be required to distribute reusable, recyclable, or compostable containers in the place of single-use plastic bottles should they choose to distribute beverages. The definition of recyclable containers, excluding single-use plastic bottles, shall refer to the guidelines set by CU Boulder's recycling contractors .

Section 2: The distribution and sale of single-use plastic bottles in student fee funded and regulated facilities shall be prohibited after a one year phase out period.

Section 3: Organizations that wish to operate, advertise, promote, or gather in student fee funded facilities shall be prohibited from distributing single-use plastic bottles.

Section 4: Vendors contracted with the University of Colorado Boulder that operate in student fee funded and regulated facilities shall be prohibited from distributing or selling single-use plastic bottles.

Section 5: Vendors currently contracted with the university shall not be required to comply with the single-use plastic bottle phase out. New contracts and contract renewals with vendors shall include the single-use plastic bottle phase out.

Section 6: The one year phase out period shall be the time allotted for a full ban of sales and distribution of single-use plastic bottles. The intermediate time is allotted for a transitional period.

Section 7: The relevant parties affected by this legislation that shall be notified upon its passage by the Legislative Council and upon either obtaining the signatures of two Tri-Executives.

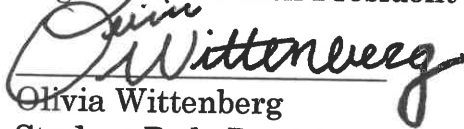
Section 8: This bill shall take effect upon final passage by the Legislative Council and upon either obtaining the signatures of two Tri-Executives or the lapse of six days without actions by the Tri-Executives.

Vote Count:

11-01-2018	Moved to 2nd Reading	15-0-0
11-08-2018	Passed on 2nd Reading	18-0-0



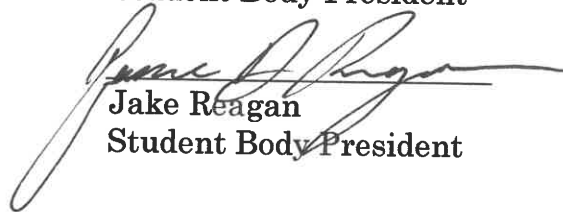
Josh Ney
Legislative Council President



Olivia Wittenberg
Student Body President



David Kidd
Student Body President



Jake Reagan
Student Body President

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO STUDENT GOVERNMENT
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

26 April 2011

77 LCR 01 — Take Back the Tap

Sponsored By:

Danielle Watkins Green
Martha Obermiller

76 Representative Council Chair
Representative at Large

Authored By:

Danielle Watkins-Green, 76 Representative Council Chair
Lucy Pearl Shyr, Coordinator of Take Back the Tap
Colleen Patricia Smith, Previous Coordinator of Take Back the Tap

A Resolution of Support of the Drinking and Utilization of Local Water thus Phasing Out the Sale of Single-Use Water Bottles at the University of Colorado in Boulder

Resolution History

In 2007, The University of Colorado at Boulder was one of the original signers to the American College and University Presidents' Climate Commitment (ACUPCC); and The University of Colorado at Boulder's Master Plan clearly states an intent "To facilitate the increased use of reusable water containers, more public filtered drinking water stations should be located in existing high use/visibility areas, and be specified in new construction/ renovations." "Take Back the Tap" is a nationwide college campus organization derived from a larger organization called Food and Water Watch. Take Back the Tap is a group striving to cease all sales of single use bottled water at the University of Colorado. In Spring 2012, the "Take Back the Tap" student chapter held several water taste tests in various areas on campus. The results show the majority of the participants could not taste the difference between bottled water and tap water.

The University prides itself in being environmentally friendly and conscious. This resolution encourages all areas of campus to consider this fact when beverage contracts are being signed. Therefore, these facilities should take into consideration about the sale of single use bottled water as the result of that many students are against it.

Resolution Summary

In summary, this resolution should encourage all areas on campus to be conscious about the distribution of single use bottled water. Also in the process of renewing or modifying contracts, this resolution should be taken into consideration. CUSG and the Take Back the Tap student campaign supports more environmental alternatives.

Whereas: The University of Colorado at Boulder's Master Plan clearly states an intent "To facilitate the increased use of reusable water containers, more public filtered drinking water stations should be located in existing high use/visibility areas, and be specified in new construction/ renovations.",

Whereas: CUSG will support the phasing-out of the sale of single-use plastic water bottles on campus,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Legislative Council of the University of Colorado Student Government, THAT:



Student Government

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO **BOULDER**

University of Colorado Student Government

Legislative Council

November 3, 2014

81LCR10-Water Bottles

Sponsored by:

Boneth Ahaneku
Aleka Stevens
Zoe Sigle
Elizabeth LeNard
Hannah Becker-Uncapher
Courtlyn Carpenter
Ken Anderson
Dylan Roberts
Andrew Hemphill
Natalie Coleman

CUSG Director of Homecoming and Event Planning
UCEC Representative-at-Large
CUSG Sustainability Think Tank
CUSG Sustainability Think Tank
CUSG Sustainability Think Tank
CUSG Sustainability Think Tank
Take Back the Tap at CU
Council of Colleges and Schools Chair
Representative Council Speaker
Council of Colleges and Schools Vice Chair

Authored by:

Bridger Ruyle
Sam Kaiser

CUSG Engineering Co-Senator
CUSG Director of Sustainability

A Resolution in Support of the Sustainability Think Tank Effort to Reduce the Sale of Single-Use Water Bottles

Resolution History

On April 26, 2011, the student government's 77th Legislative Council passed 77LCR01, a resolution coauthored with Take Back the Tap leaders to address single-use water bottle sales on Boulder campus. While this resolution encouraged the development of a strategy geared towards infrastructure development and a reduction in single-use water bottle sales, many strategies still need to be considered for its legacy to have lasting campus impact. CUSG's sustainability agency has since been increased through 80LCB18, mandating the Sustainability Commission in April 2014. This commission, currently operating as the Sustainability Think Tank, has undertaken renewed efforts to address the

Whereas, the energy used to pump, process, transport and refrigerate our bottled water is estimated to be over 50 million barrels of oil every year⁴;

Whereas, CUSG has a distinguished legacy of leading sustainable initiatives and practices on campus;

Whereas, single-use water bottles leaves an unnecessary, inefficient, long-lasting environmental footprint;

Whereas, CUSG believes that more sustainable alternatives to single-use water bottles should be pursued at cost centers and across campus;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Legislative Council of the University of Colorado Student Government, that:

Section 1: It is the view of Legislative Council that CUSG fully supports the Sustainability Think Tank's ongoing effort to reduce the sale of single-use water bottles on campus. This resolution includes the sale of single-use water bottles everywhere on campus, including cost centers.

Section 2: Upon passage of this resolution, the Sustainability Think Tank we begin the development of significant, long-lasting policy directed towards the reduction of single-use water bottle sales on CU Boulder Campus.

Section 3: Upon passage, this resolution will be distributed to the UMC, CUSG executive staff, CUSG Sustainability Think Tank, the Environmental Center, Residence Hall Association, Housing and Dining, CU Athletics, and media sources.

Vote Count

11/6/14

Passed on 1st Reading

Acclamation

11/13/14


Amended History section, Whereas section, and header

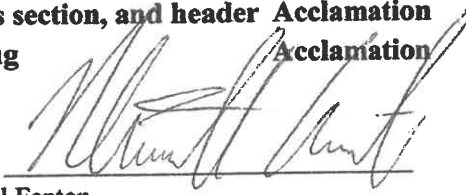
Acclamation

11/13/14

Passed on 2nd Reading

Acclamation


Juedon Kebede
President of Student Affairs


Mitchell Fenton
Legislative Council President

⁴ Brown, Lester R. "Chapter 8. Building an Energy-Efficient Economy." *World on the Edge: How to Prevent Environmental and Economic Collapse*. Earth Policy Institute. 2011. Web. 02 Nov. 2014.

Appendix C

University of Colorado Student Union Legislative Council

April 9, 2008

68LCB12 – Waste Reduction Events

Sponsored by:	Daniel Ramos	Representative-at-Large
Authored by:	Daniel Ramos Amy Harris	Representative-at-Large UCSU Sustainability Director

A Bill to Address Waste Reduction for Student Fee Funded Events

Bill History

The CU-Boulder campus is known throughout the country for being a leader in sustainable environmental policy. Though the campus has been successful in certain measures such as conserving energy and water, encouraging sustainable transportation to and from campus, and promoting social benefits from environmental protection, there is still more that can be done. Supporting waste reduction measures, such as reducing waste in the first place by using reusable products or by using products that can be converted into compost not only save resources such as water and petroleum, but also reduces the demand for landfill space. Landfills are responsible for leaching dangerous toxics into nearby streams among other hazards, and there is also evidence that the costs of landfills disproportionately impact low income communities and communities of color. In the interest of resources, environmental health, and social welfare, waste should be reduced as much as possible.

Many of our student group events that serve any type of food are planned through UMC Catering. When these events are planned, the default option for dishware is disposable products. Re-usable or compostable dishware is available and lightly advertised, though there is an added cost for both the reusable china and compostable products options. According to Food Services Director Shannon Evins, throughout the academic school year, the UMC averages 26 events per month with an average of 126 people per event. The waste produced from these events adds up very quickly, causing the UMC to have to pull its trash roll-off more frequently.

The Cultural Events Board has started to recommend waste reduction events for student groups. This summer, all groups that are funded fully or in part by the cultural events board shall opt for the zero-waste option that UMC Catering offers. The UMC has decided to use this ambitious effort as something like a pilot program for their zero-waste options. Throughout the summer UMC Catering shall be able to use its experience with CEB funded events to work out the logistics of effectively pricing and providing zero-waste options for the events that they cater. This legislation, through an earmarked SOR request, would ensure that student groups do not bear any additional cost for putting on zero-waste events. This bill was taken to the UMC Board on April 8, 2008 and was approved by acclamation by their board in support of this legislation.

The earmark in SOR is set out for two years to measure the actual additional cost of permanent waste reduction legislation. The cost of pulling the trash roll-off from the UMC loading dock is \$300 per pull, whereas the cost for pulling the compost roll-off is only \$25 per

pull. If this bill is enacted, the waste that is usually diverted to the trash roll-off shall instead be diverted to the compost bin, or in the case of china use, shall be avoided altogether. This shall result in waste cost savings. By providing two years to pilot this action, future councils can determine the actual cost of reducing waste through this strategy. This may or may not be an increase due to the reduction of trash pulls and the increase of compost pulls. Additionally, as production technology improves, the cost of providing compostable disposables shall decrease, as has been witnessed by UMC Catering over the past five years. For example, the disposable salad bowls currently in use in the Alfred Packer Grill are compostable and are actually less expensive than their non-compostable counterparts.

Another factor considered in this bill is providing capital for the UMC to purchase its own compost bins as well as covering the additional cost of compostable trash bags so they don't have to rely on CU Recycling staff or materials to put on a zero-waste event. Because CU Recycling does not have the capacity to support this magnitude of zero-waste events, UMC Catering staff shall be responsible for setting compost bins and taking the compost to the UMC's compost roll-off after the event. This shall elicit savings as well because the UMC shall not have to pay for CU Recycling's services, or the services provided by Eco-Cycle when CU Recycling is unable to provide their services. There is limited space on the UMC loading dock, so continued conversations shall determine the demand of compost bins and how to accommodate those bins for the UMC. Also, the Finance Board granted a SOR request from the Environmental Center in the purchase of a collection truck. This shall be an integral part of the process in working together among cost centers to establish this goal and work towards a more sustainable university.

Bill Summary

This bill establishes waste reduction policies for all student-fee supported UMC catered events. The bill outlines the plan in moving towards robust waste reduction, and shall bring the different actors together in developing a plan to carry out this bill effectively, as well as work towards permanent legislation to reduce waste on the CU-Boulder camps.

THEREFORE BE IT ENACTED:

Section 1: This bill mandates that all events funded by student fees, including, but not limited to, cost centers and student groups, must either use (1) Re-usable china and flatware or (2) Compostable dishware.

- 1) These items include, but are not limited to, plates, silverware, and glasses.
- 2) The only exception is if an alternative product is unavailable to UMC Catering.

Section 2: In the event an event is held outside the UMC, the default choice for dishes is compostable flatware.

Section 3: This bill earmarks a \$35,000 earmark from SOR for additional expenses. The additional cost of this pilot program shall not affect student fees or student groups in the cost of their events. This SOR earmark shall expire two years from its passage, \$17,500 per year, to analyze the increased costs if a waste reduction plan is permanently implemented.

- 1) The Waste Reduction Cost sheet shall be used by UMC Catering to determine the increased cost to student groups for their reduced waste event. This sheet shall be an addition to the Event Planning packets given to student groups in helping plan their events.
- 2) This sheet shall be submitted to the Student Organization Finance Office
 - a. SOFO shall use this sheet in determining the increased cost of the event.
 - b. This increased cost shall be taken from the SOR earmark by SOFO.
- 3) The increased costs covered by the SOR earmark include, but are not limited to:
 - a. Increased labor costs
 - b. Increased material costs
 - c. Increased costs of more frequent compost hauls
- 4) Money not used in this earmark shall remain the in SOR account.

Section 4: Events held in the UMC with less than 50 people shall have a default choice of re-usable china and flatware, though not limited to events under 50 people.

Section 5: The UMC Event Staff is responsible to scrape excess food from the china plates into compostable containers.

Section 6: This bill earmarks \$300 from SOR for the purchase of up to two compostable bins.

- 1) The UMC shall monitor the increased need of compostable bins for the use of UMC and student group events.
- 2) Once that demand is identified, the UMC shall report to the Finance Board to allocate their earmark.

Section 7: UMC Catering and Events shall enforce this action to ensure the compliance of student groups in implementing the new standard of this bill.

- 1) The UMC, Environmental Center, Events Planning and Catering and the UCSU Sustainability Director shall work together in developing this process for a smooth transition for student groups and other involved parties.
- 2) These parties shall report to the Legislative Council on the first Thursday in December 2008.
 - a. This report shall include, but is not limited to:
 - i. How the process is affecting student groups
 - ii. The changes made in making a smooth transition to comply with this bill.
 - iii. Increased costs and the status of the earmark from SOR.
- 3) Additional reports to the Legislative Council shall occur within 4 weeks of the last day of classes.
 - a. These reports shall serve as updates once initial plans and changes are made to uphold student groups to the standards outlined in this bill.

Section 8: The UCSU Student Groups Director in partnership with the SGFB Chair shall be

responsible for informing student groups and addressing any concerns with the UCSU Sustainability Director.

Section 9: The UCSU Sustainability Director shall be responsible for ensuring compliance by groups with this bill and addressing any changes or difficulties with other members of UCSU.
1) This addition shall be made to the UCSU Sustainability Director Job Description by the 2008-2009 Tri-Executives.

Section 10: This bill shall take effect upon passage by the Legislative Council and upon either obtaining the signatures of two Tri-Executives or the elapse of six days without action by the Tri-Executives.

	Vote Count	
4/10/08	Passed	Acclamation
4/17/08	Passed	Acclamation

Boyce Postma,
Legislative Council President

Sara Davine,
Tri-Executive

Charles Gilford,
Tri-Executive

Hadley Brown,
Tri-Executive