

Environment & Energy

Ban on Goods With 'Forever Chemicals' Becomes Law in Colorado

By Zach Bright

June 3, 2022, 4:04 PM

Colorado will prohibit the sale of "forever chemicals" intentionally added to cosmetics, food packaging, and a host of consumer goods, after Gov. Jared Polis signed H.B. 22-1345.

The law, set to take effect in 2024, will make Colorado the first state to explicitly ban all types of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances, or PFAS, in cosmetics, textile furnishings, and indoor and outdoor furniture. The state will also be the first to prohibit PFAS use in fluids used to extract oil and gas.

"These protections send a strong signal to the marketplace that companies should be looking to replace PFAS with safer solutions," Sarah Doll, national director of the advocacy group Safer States, said in a statement. "We anticipate other states to continue this trend."

1. PFAS are a class of more than 9,000 longlasting chemicals used to repel stains, water, and grease. At high enough levels, they are linked to reproductive problems, developmental delays in children, and increased risk of some cancers, according to the Environmental Protection Agency.
2. The law mandates that Colorado purchase PFAS-free products. It also applies also to carpeting, fabric treatments, and juvenile products.
3. Eight states are phasing out PFAS in food packaging, while four states have adopted restrictions on PFAS in carpets, rugs, and fabric treatments, and 10 states have passed bans on the sale of firefighting foam with PFAS.
4. Washington state will ban PFAS in certain food packaging by May 2024 and is evaluating safer alternatives for other food containers.

To contact the reporter on this story: Zach Bright at zbright@bloombergindustry.com

To contact the editor responsible for this story: Renee Schoof at rschoof@bloombergindustry.com

Documents

Document

[PFAS activity tracker \(last updated June 2\)](#)

Related Articles

[Ban on Goods Containing 'Forever Chemicals' Passed in Colorado](#)

May 11, 2022, 4:31 PM

[Washington State Moves on PFAS Ban for Five Food Packaging Types](#)

May 19, 2022, 4:37 PM

Topics

oil and gas exploration and extraction
chemical product safety
cosmetic product safety
PFAS

© 2022 The Bureau of National Affairs, Inc. All Rights Reserved