

To: House Committee on Energy and Environment
From: Lila Scott, Elliott Pierce, Soren Bennett

Re: HB 2762

Hello, our names are Lila Scott, Elliott Pierce, and Soren Bennett. We all go to Sunnyside Environmental School in Portland. Polystyrene is really bad for the environment and we are here to tell you why. According to our research:

- Polystyrene is made out of petroleum, a really polluting material.
- **It is one of the main ingredients of litter and marine debris.**
- Polystyrene does not biodegrade. It takes up a lot of the landfill and takes *hundreds* of years for it to decompose.
- **Polystyrene is taken through the storm drains and into the oceans.**
- Polystyrene photo degrades which means it needs light to go away, but that is not likely buried in the landfill.
- Polystyrene is bad for many different reasons.

The trays that are used today will be in the landfill and oceans for over 500 years. That's *not* the legacy we want to leave behind.

Thank you.

<http://www.earthresource.org/campaigns/capp/capp-styrofoam.html>
http://www.bios.niu.edu/news_events/Dangers_of_Polystyrene.pdf
<http://www.epa.gov/owow/oceans/debris/toolkit/files/plastic508.pdf>
http://www.cleanwateraction.org/files/publications/ca/cwa_fact_sheet_polystyrene_litter_2011_03.pdf