

From: [Dave Toler](#)
To: [HEE Exhibits](#)
Subject: Testimony on HB 2509
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4.3.19

To: Members, House Energy and Environment Committee

From:
Dave Toler
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I am writing you today in hopes of persuading each of you to please ensure that this proposed legislation accomplishes its goal of reducing CO2 emissions into our atmosphere that occur from the production of plastic bags as well as reducing the level of plastic in our waste stream that so heavily impacts our ocean waters. And unless this legislation discourages the overall use of grocery bags, its unintended consequences will greatly compromise these laudible goals.

A recent study led by OSU professor Bev Law indicates that the industry that emits the most CO2 in Oregon is timber harvesting. Without a pass-through charge at the grocery counter, the use of paper bags will simply replace that of plastic, thus greatly compromising both goals of this legislation.

No doubt the paper industry is pushing you to exclude a pass through charge. The question is, are you going to pass legislation that saves our environment or are you going to bend to a paper industry that will profit from such an exclusion.

If your goal is to have a positive impact on CO2 emissions and our waste in the oceans, please do the right thing and retain a pass-through charge with this bill.

Thank you,

Dave Toler