



January 31, 2023

Senate Committee on Energy and Environment
900 Court Street NE Salem, OR 97301

RE: SB 405

Dear Chair Sollman, Vice-Chair Findley, and Members of the Committee,

NWGA serves as the leading advocate for the grocery retail and supplier industry in the Pacific Northwest, representing Washington, Oregon and Idaho. Collectively NWGA members employ more than 44,000 people at more than 409 locations across Oregon. Our membership includes the retailers, wholesalers, brokers, manufacturers, and suppliers that support the Pacific Northwest's grocery industry.

I am testifying today in opposition to SB 405. NWGA has serious concerns about the feasibility of this legislation. Oregon would be the first state to implement a ban of this kind and for good reason. Currently, there is no market availability of clothes washers with built in microfiber filtration systems. With an implementation date of 2026, it is inconceivable that there would be enough supply to meet consumer demand in the next three years.

The alternative would be an aftermarket addition, or in line filters; however, there are significant issues with clogging and flooding that have yet to be addressed. Additionally, we are opposed to any provisions that require manufacturers to install third party equipment as this would interfere with warranty contracts and claims.

The retail industry is supportive of innovative solutions to creating less waste and pollution in our water systems. However, implementing a market ban without the necessary supply available is not something we can support.

Sincerely,

Mia Noren
Legislative Director, NWGA