

Submitter: Shari Harris-Dunning

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Energy and Environment

Measure: SB543

Hello to all esteemed members of the Oregon Senate,

One of the most egregious single-use plastics is polystyrene foam, which is not reused and generally is not accepted in curbside recycling. It's one of the top items polluting Oregon's beaches and styrene, the major building block of what is commonly known as styrofoam, is considered as "probably carcinogenic" by the World Health Organization. Styrene has been found to leach out of polystyrene containers at all temperatures, which poses a great threat to human health. Think about our children drinking their hot cocoa out of polystyrene cups. Think about all of the takeout meals served in polystyrene. As we drink and eat, we are ingesting probable carcinogens.

I am in support of SB 543 which would ban vendors from using polystyrene foam containers in sales of prepared food. This bill will go a long way in both protecting Oregon's beaches and its citizens. All Oregonians deserve pollution-free beaches and the knowledge that their prepared food is not being served in "probably carcinogenic" containers.

Thank you,

Shari Harris-Dunning