



Date: 4/2/2023

Chair Marsh, Vice-Chairs Emerson Levy and Bobby Levy, and Members Andersen, Helm, Kropf, Osborne, Owens, Pham, and Wallan,

The Portland Chapter of the Climate Reality Project is writing in support of the original version of SB 545.

SB 545 offers a simple and practical way to reduce the use of plastic. Plastic pollution is a problem across the state, ending up in the ocean, lakes, and rivers and ingested by humans through food and water. Throughout its lifecycle, plastic is also very bad for the climate. Most plastics are made from fossil fuels, and plastic refining is one of the most greenhouse gas intensive manufacturing sectors. Once used, plastic is notoriously difficult to recycle. Most of it ends up in landfills or is incinerated, which results in very high emissions.

The current version of SB 545 as passed by the Senate is a watered-down version of the original bill. We urge you to allow a wider range of food establishments to let customers use their own containers. This would greatly reduce the amount of plastic consumed relative to the current version of the bill.

Oregonians should be able to support any local food establishment without generating unnecessary plastic production. Please support an expanded version of SB 545 passed by the Senate.

Thank you,

Amanda Duncan
Legislative Committee
Climate Reality Project, Portland Chapter

[About The Climate Reality Project](#)

The Climate Reality Project, Portland Chapter is a local, volunteer-led group affiliated with the international non-profit The Climate Reality Project founded by climate leader and former US Vice President Al Gore, whose mission is to catalyze a global solution to the climate crisis by making urgent action a necessity across every sector of society. With a global movement more than 5 million strong and a grassroots network of trained Climate Reality Leader activists, we're spreading the truth about the climate crisis and building popular support for clean energy solutions.

For more information, visit the Portland Chapter at <https://climaterealitypdx.com/>, and the Climate Reality Project at www.climaterealityproject.org or on Twitter at @ClimateReality.