

Submitter: Elisabeth Hardy

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Energy and Environment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB551

I am a grandmother who fears for the future of my children and grandchildren in an increasingly warming world, and in a world where we all consume, micro plastics every day.

The creation of plastic bags is made from fossil fuels that are extracted from the Earth. Fossil fuels then leak into the atmosphere during the manufacture of plastic bags and other plastics. This is contributing to the rising temperature of our planet.

I realize that plastic is much cheaper to produce than paper bags, however it is actually more expensive in the long run because the more fossil fuels that are released into the atmosphere, the warmer our planet gets, and the more severe climate related disasters are. The more severe disasters become, the more money everyone will have to pay to recover from the disasters.

Many retailers and restaurants offer paper bags instead of plastic bags. The heavier plastic bags offered at retail stores are meant to be reused. However, I see people throwing them away instead of reusing them and they end up in our waterways and the ocean and contribute to the micro plastics that we all now have in our bodies, and we are consuming every day in our food.

I urge you to support SB 551 which prohibits restaurants and retailers from offering reusable plastic bags to customers. They should offer paper bags instead.

Thank you,
Elisabeth Hardy