

Submitter: Donna Bleiler

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Energy and Environment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB551

I STRONGLY OPPOSE SB 551.

The state's responsibility of governing is not micromanaging and creating disunity in the state.

Micromanaging the use of single-use plastic bags to a single use is not a reduction of garbage. We all look for ways to reuse bags. I give mine to non-profit stores, so are forcing non-profits and food banks to charge for bags? The testimony of the Association of Oregon Recyclers is nonsensical that banning reuse would reduce garbage. It will do the opposite if for every use a new bag is required.

Oregon should keep up with current changes. Manufacturers are shifting to eco-friendly alternatives such as bioplastics made from renewable resources such as cornstarch or sugarcane. These bioplastics can have a lower carbon footprint and exhibit advantageous materials properties compared to fossil-based plastics. This aims to reduce the amount of raw material going to landfill and minimize the environmental impact of plastic waste.

It's been proven that plastics biodegrade faster than cardboard, so is this a hit on use of fossil fuels, which environmentalists clearly hate? This inconvenience won't do that and the cardboard replacement may make things worse with the false impress it's biodegradable. .

What is the purpose or reason for a state law that says the county or city MAY enforce it. That only screams of power grab.