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January 28, 2019

Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resource
Oregon State Capitol
900 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

Chair Dembrow and Members of the Committee:

The Association of Oregon Recyclers (AOR) is a trade association focused on advancing waste prevention and recycling in Oregon. AOR supports SB90.

AOR supports state legislation to reduce single-use plastics by letting consumers decide if they require or want disposable food service items like straws. AOR members strongly believe the most important element of this policy is explicitly to target fast food, take-out and delivery services, as the plastic straws that are routinely provided to customers when they purchase take out beverages are the most likely to be littered onto the land and into Oregon water ways.

SB90 prohibits restaurants from providing single-use plastic straw to customers unless the customer requests a straw and helps to address plastic straw litter that results in marine debris and negative impacts on wildlife. The bill also provides a key opportunity to advance waste prevention in Oregon.

SB90 lets the consumer decide if they need a straw and provides Oregonians with a choice related to their personal consumption of single-use plastics. Providing Oregonians with opportunities to be thoughtful consumers supports the State of Oregon's 2030 vision for sustainable materials management. And by providing this choice, the bill also ensures that people with limited mobility to drink will continue to have access to flexible plastic straws.

AOR supports SB90 and urges your support.

Sincerely,



Alison Briggs-Ungerer
Chair, Association of Oregon Recyclers