

## Watts Remy

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**From:** Cynthia Matherly <strawlessoregon@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 22, 2019 10:09 PM  
**To:** SENR Exhibits  
**Subject:** HB 2883 StrawlessOregon letter of Support

Dear Senator Dembrow and Honorable Members of the Senate Environment and Natural Resources Committee:

We at Strawless Oregon are please to submit to you our comments in support of HB 2883 regarding prohibiting Food vendors from using polystyrene containers in selling or offering for sale serving or dispensing prepared food to the public

We understand given the scale of the global and local plastic waste crisis that recycling will not be able to absorb existing and expanding production of polystyrene and other plastics. This is a scale issue. We need bold decisive change. Therefore we applauding the creation and are supporting HB 2883. Passing the bill sooner than later will help curb further polystyrene plastic pollution and waste.

We know polystyrene containers leach chemicals into hot food and beverages served in it. Polystyrene can be fragile and breaks up into unretrievable micro plastics that can last thousands of years in the environment. Polystyrene micro particles eaten by plankton and marine life in turn ends up in our food chain and our bodies.

Plastics and polystyrene require petroleum to be produced. We must drastically curb the need for more fossil fuel extraction for plastics. Emphasis and encouragement should be placed on the use of durables and reusables and more easily degradable products.

The primary focus must be on reducing toxic plastics. Therefore we encourage passing the bill as a state of emergency by January 1, 2020 as polystyrene poses health and environmental risks for Oregonians.

Thank you for considering our comments,

Cindy and Brennen Matherly  
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