

Submitter: Jonathan Clark

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Energy and Environment

Measure: SB544

Dear Senators Sollman, Dembrow and Representative Dexter, and other sponsors,

Thank you for sponsoring this bill. Plastic waste has become a part of our world. It affects every ecosystem and can be found everywhere on this planet. It affects our health and disrupts the food chains. It is caused by petrochemical companies that use cheap but unsustainable fossil fuels to turn our bodies and our planet into garbage dumps.

Plastic does not recycle well. Even the small percentage of plastic that gets recycled can only be recycled once or twice before its quality degrades. While plastic reduction is necessary, we also need better waste management to handle plastics along with other "forever chemicals" that pollute our water and farm land. We need to undo the global harm caused by landfills and dumping plastic into our oceans. We also need to address the harm of microplastics and other "forever chemicals" in our water supplies and wastewater systems.

While I fully support this bill, it does not go far enough to reduce/eliminate plastic waste. I urge you to pass further legislation that will eliminate all petro-chemical-sourced plastics by 2035 and provide better ways to recycle the current plastic waste that we have.