

Submitter: Tamara Babad

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment

Measure: SB543

I'm writing today on behalf of Consolidated Oregon Indivisible Network (COIN) to express strong support for SB 543, phasing out Polystyrene and PFCs. COIN is made up of over 40 Indivisible groups from across Oregon that collaborate to protect democracy and implement progressive values. Plastic garbage is wreaking havoc on our environment, especially marine life. Polystyrene persists in the environment for centuries. The 33 billion pounds of plastic that enter the marine environment every year kills at least 100,000 marine animals (Earth.org 11/19/21) and up to 1 million sea birds (CNN 11/19/21) each year. Expanded polystyrene is not accepted in curbside recycling. Recycling is clearly not the answer, because we have had recycling programs for years and still the oceans are full of degrading plastic. Plastic chemicals are leaching into our food and beverages (Muncke J, Myers JP, Scheringer M, et al (2014)). Please endorse SB 543 and protect all of God's creatures, including ourselves.

Coin advocates for progressive values through voter outreach and education, campaigns and elections, holding our elected leaders accountable, and advocating for legislation that best reflects our values.

Respectfully,

Tamara Babad
COIN Legislative Team
COIN Climate Energy and Environment Team