

Submitter: Lily Capozzi
On Behalf Of: Cascades Academy
Committee: House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment
Measure: SB543

I am writing in support of bill SB 543. I understand that this bill will not allow styrofoam to be used in Oregon, and I am totally in favor of this, and let me tell you why. Styrofoam takes over 500 years to decompose, so it's just piling up around Oregon. I have lived in Bend for 7 years, and over years I feel like I have seen more garbage pile up on the sides of roads, overflowing trash cans, and even just blowing around in the wind. I am only in middle school, but I am not oblivious to what's going on. I have noticed that most people don't observe the accumulating garbage that won't decompose, and it's mostly because they don't have to deal with it. I am sure that many people including me have a roof to live under, and we are very fortunate but there are also over 17,900 homeless people who are living in the filth that we dump away. None of us can truly be empathetic because we haven't experienced homelessness ourselves, but I think it's worth a try. Styrofoam does not only affect people but it also affects the animals in Oregon. Over a million animals die search year due to garbage, and this number will continue to go up unless we do something. This bill will not fix all of our problems right away, but it's a step in the right direction. If this is not approved you could be risking the lives of millions of animals, but if it is approved you could be saving millions of animals and helping tens of thousands of people. Thank you for taking the time to read my testimony.

Sincerely,
Lily Capozzi