

Submitter: Shauna McKain-Storey

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Energy and Environment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB551

I have witnessed many people buying supposedly reusable plastic bags and then throwing them away after only one use. I have found them (and many of the other single use plastics specified in this bill) dumped by the side of the road, outside stores, and elsewhere. If consumers don't reuse these bags, they are still single-use items. These bags are also made of heavier plastic and therefore will likely cause more pollution than the single use bags they are replacing. We are a coastal state and we know what harm plastics can do to our coastlines, oceans, and the wildlife that rely on these environments. We really need to get more serious about decreasing plastic pollution. Allowing an easy way to evade the ban on single use plastic bags, by allowing restaurants and retailers to distribute "reusable" plastic bags is not treating this issue seriously. Also, as someone who cares about decreasing plastic pollution, I will be more likely to visit restaurants and other businesses if I don't have to worry so much about adding to this problem by doing so. Please vote yes on SB 551. Thank You