



March 21, 2025

Representative Lively,  
Chair, House Committee on Climate, Energy and Environment

Re: HB 2960 (Support)

On behalf of Oregon chapter network, our greater membership and thousands of Oregon supporters and volunteers, the Surfrider Foundation would like to express our support for HB 2960 which bans so-called "chemical recycling." This misleading and dangerous practice threatens our environment, public health, and efforts to reduce plastic pollution.

"Chemical recycling" is not true recycling. Technologies like pyrolysis and gasification primarily convert plastic into low-quality fuels, releasing toxic emissions and greenhouse gases in the process. These facilities disproportionately impact frontline communities and undermine real solutions like reducing plastic production, improving reuse systems, and expanding true recycling efforts. Economically, these facilities have [repeatedly failed as businesses](#), even right here in the state of Oregon, despite being heavily subsidized and exempt from certain environmental permitting.

Oregon has long been a leader in environmental protection, and HB 2960 aligns with our state's commitment to protecting our coastlines, watersheds, and communities from plastic pollution. Being a leader in the nation with both the recent Recycling Modernization Act and our historical Bottle Bill, we have an opportunity to lead on responsible approaches to recycling. Pyrolysis and gasification are not recycling and they are harmful environmentally, socially and these processes and associated industries continue to fail economically.

Surfrider Foundation is a grassroots, non-profit environmental organization dedicated to the protection and enjoyment of our world's ocean, waves and beaches. Our Oregon chapter network comprises thousands of supporters and volunteers throughout the state organized among our distinct coastal chapters in Oregon. Our plastic pollution initiative includes extensive ongoing coastal beach cleanups, local policy advocacy, partnerships with researchers and business-forward programs to reduce plastic waste such as our Ocean Friendly Restaurant and Lodging Programs. It is through these efforts our volunteers and Oregon network of chapters and members are working in your local communities in Oregon on single use plastic pollution from the cleanup level to the consumer and business prevention level.

We support HB 2960 as an effort to curb a broken cycle and false narrative that further perpetuates single-use plastic production.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Charlie Plybon". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, looping "P" and "y" in "Plybon".

Charlie Plybon  
Oregon Policy Manager  
Surfrider Foundation  
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