

Sayers, Margery

From: Natasha S <nshangold2014@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 3:30 PM
Subject: Please Support CB13-2021: The Plastic Reduction Act

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear County Council Member,

As a concerned resident and constituent of yours, I am writing to ask you to support CB13-2021 The Plastic Reduction Act. All of Canada and the EU will be banning all single-use plastic this year. In the US, NJ, NY, Hawaii, and California are a few states with straw bans. Closer to home, DC, PG Tacoma Park, and most recently, Montgomery County passed a straw ban in December 2020. All the areas are already seeing a reduction in plastic use.

Waste and litter from single-use plastics and other disposable products are creating an environmental crisis. Plastic straws, cutlery, stirrers, and condiment packets are a threat to our health and environment, easily ending in our waterways, and releasing toxins into our air and water when incinerated and landfilled. Consumption of disposable plastics is causing irreparable damage to our marine life and oceans. Plastic pieces on the ocean surface now outnumber sea life 6 to 1. By 2050, there will be more plastics by weight than fish. Reducing plastic straw, stirrers, cutlery, and condiment packets helps the environment, but also saves retailers and consumers money.

So, knowing that most single-use products, recycled or not, are likely to end up in our oceans, CB13- 2021 can make a difference.

Thanks Always,
Natasha Shangold
8937 Skyrock Ct
Columbia, MD 21046

Sayers, Margery

From: Mary <maryakin2401@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 1:02 PM
To: Jones, Opel
Cc: Ball, Calvin; CouncilMail
Subject: Testimony on CB-13

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear County Council Member Opel,

I have lived in Maryland for 11 years and currently live in Columbia, Maryland. I am now a student in 11th grade. I am writing to urge you to pass the Howard County Plastic Reduction Act, CB13-2021, so that Maryland can eliminate some of the worst pollutants that line our coasts and waterways.

It deeply saddens me when I see polluted Maryland beaches and pollution reports about the Chesapeake Bay. In the 2020 State of The Bay Report, the Chesapeake Bay received a D+, though it is experiencing some recovery, long-term, more action needs to be done to save it.

Single use plastics don't break down but they do break up into microplastics which are harder to detect and are everywhere. They are ingested and can cause health issues for many animals. Microplastics can even be found in humans now and the health effects are unclear. So the time to take action is now as if more action is not taken locally and nationally, ocean microplastics could double by 2050. Thank you for serving the community, I look forward to seeing the future of this bill.

Sincerely,
Mary Akinrogbe
5271 Candy Root Ct, Columbia, MD

Sayers, Margery

From: Dean Baghdadi <dbaghdadi@outlook.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 4:02 PM
To: Walsh, Elizabeth; Royalty, Wendy; Little, Cristiana; Jones, Opel; Harris, Michael; Alston, Ashley; Rigby, Christiana; Gelwicks, Colette; Facchine, Felix; Jung, Deb; Williams, China; Gick, Ginnie; Yungmann, David; Knight, Karen; Skalny, Cindy; CouncilMail; Ball, Calvin; Hira, Safa
Subject: Plastic Reduction Act CB13-2021

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear County Council Member Opel Jones,

My name is Dean Baghdadi, I am a junior at Howard High School emailing you in support for the Plastic Reduction Act CB13-2021. I believe it is a necessity to ban plastic straws and stirrers and all PLA straws. As someone who works in fast food and distributes plastic materials to customers on a regular basis, I am aware of the amount of plastic materials are used on a daily basis by people. Making them only available on request will vastly reduce the amount of plastic that is used through encouraging customers utilize reusable materials.

Plastic cutlery is overused and should not be used as much by Howard County residents. Please consider making this proposed bill legislation and improve the life and environment of Howard County.

Dean Baghdadi
5456 Antrim Ct
Columbia, MD 21045

Sayers, Margery

From: Marti Wade <martiwade@verizon.net>
Sent: Monday, February 1, 2021 3:48 PM
To: Walsh, Elizabeth; Royalty, Wendy; Little, Cristiana; Jones, Opel; Harris, Michael; Alston, Ashley; Rigby, Christiana; Gelwicks, Colette; Facchine, Felix; Jung, Deb; Williams, China; Gick, Ginnie; Yungmann, David; Knight, Karen; Skalny, Cindy; CouncilMail
Subject: CB13-2021, The Plastic Reduction Act

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear County Council Members,

As a concerned resident of Howard County, I urge you to support CB13-2021, The Plastic Reduction Act. Plastic straws are unnecessary for the vast majority of people, and are thrown away after a single use. This waste, though seemingly small, adds up quickly and causes serious and far-reaching harm to our environment and to our health. The average American uses 1.6 straws per day. Howard County's population in 2019 was 325,690, which means that Howard County uses about 521,104 straws per day which immediately become trash. Plastic straws, plastic utensils, and plastic condiment packages are not recyclable, so they end up in our landfills and incinerators, littering our streets, clogging our storm drains, and often finding their way into our waterways where they harm and kill marine life, and enter our food chain as micro-plastics.

All of Canada and the European Union will be banning all single-use plastic this year. In the United States of America, New Jersey, New York, Hawaii, and California are a few states with plastic straw bans. Closer to home, D.C., Prince George's County, Tacoma Park, and most recently, Montgomery County passed a straw ban in December, 2020. All of these areas are already seeing a reduction in plastic use. Bans and regulations on consumer items that damage the environment have proven to be an effective way to reduce single-use plastic. The Plastic Reduction Act would prevent harm to wildlife, improve our health, help keep our coasts clean, and protect our oceans and beaches for the future.

This issue is bigger than plastic straws, cutlery, stirrers and condiment packets. We are in a plastic pollution crisis. Reducing single-use plastics is a critical step in creating a healthy future. Let Howard County be one of the leaders in taking responsible environmental action. CB13-2021, The Plastic Reduction Act, can make a difference. We must act now.

Sincerely,

Marti Simpson
9800 Woodbridge Court
Elliott City, MD 21042-6237

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Dear County Council Members,

I am writing to urge you to vote in support of CB13-2021. Straws are made primarily from nonrenewable fossil fuels and are also not accepted as recyclable. As a result, countless single-use straws often end up harming marine life, ecosystems, and our coasts. Plastic should be banned because the harm they cause vastly outweighs the benefit to society.

When plastic from straws, cutlery, stirrers and condiment packets enters our waterways, it adsorbs toxic chemicals such as DDT, PCBs, PAHs, and flame retardants found in our waterways. In 2011, the National Oceanic Atmospheric Association found that plastic debris accumulates pollutants such as PCBs up to 100,000 to 1,000,000 times the levels found in seawater. The material plastic straws are made from, polypropylene #5, continues to absorb toxics up to a year after it enters our waters.

As toxins from marine plastic pollution make their way up the food chain, it poses a dangerous threat to humans and wildlife who consume them, and can lead to health problems including birth defects, cancer, and learning and growth deficits in children. Many plastics contain chemicals that leach out, especially when exposed to weathering, heat, or UV light.

Bans and regulations on consumer items that damage the environment have proven to be an effective way to reduce single-use plastic. The Plastic Reduction Act would prevent harm to wildlife, improve our health, help keep our coasts clean, and protect our oceans and beaches for the future.

The harm straws and other single-use products create far outweigh any benefit. CB13-2021, the Plastic Reduction Act will help create a healthier environment for generations to come.

Name
Address

Dear County Council Members,

As a concerned resident and constituent of yours, I am writing to ask you to support CB13-2021 The Plastic Reduction Act. All of Canada and the EU will be banning all single-use plastic this year. In the US, NJ, NY, Hawaii and California are a few states with straw bans. Closer to home, DC, PG Tacoma Park and most recently, MoCo passed a straw ban in December, 2020. All the areas are already seeing a reduction in plastic use.

Waste and litter from single-use plastics and other disposable products are creating an environmental crisis. Plastic straws, cutlery, stirrers and condiment packets are a threat to our health and environment, easily ending in our waterways, and releasing toxins into our air and water when incinerated and landfilled. Consumption of disposable plastics is causing irreparable damage to our marine life and oceans. Plastic pieces on the ocean surface now outnumber sea life 6 to 1. By 2050, there will be more plastics by weight than fish.

Reducing plastic straw, stirrers, cutlery and condiment packets helps the environment, but also saves retailers and consumers money.

So, knowing that most single-use products, recycled or not, are likely to end up in our oceans, CB13-2021 can make a difference.

Sincerely,

Name
address

Dear County Council Members,

I am writing to you asking for you to support, the Plastic Reduction Act, CB13-2021

Here are just a few concerns I have with plastic straws:

Straws are one of the top ten plastic items found on beaches across the globe.

Last year during International Coastal Cleanup Day, over 400,000 straws and stirrers were found on beaches.

Plastic cutlery is now one of the top 10 items found on beach clean-ups. Literally trillion of condiment packets each year with no value and absolutely no recyclability.

Plastic doesn't biodegrade, it photodegrades into smaller and smaller pieces, which get ingested by marine and land animals, and into our food chain.

Once in our waterways, plastic absorbs other toxins, such as persistent organic pollutants (POPs).

Plastic straws cannot be recycled effectively.

But we must act now. An implementation delay of five years would result in an additional ~80 million metric tons of plastic going into the ocean by 2040.

This is bigger than plastic straws, cutlery, stirrers and condiment packets This is a critical step of creating a healthy future.

Name

Address

Sent from my iPad

Sayers, Margery

From: Cynthia Williams <cawilliams66@hotmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 4, 2021 11:23 AM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Vote YES for CB 13-2021

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Please support this bill. Thank you!

Cynthia Williams