

Sayers, Margery

From: Jennifer Kubina <jennifer.kubina@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2021 7:56 AM
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: 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 I fight to reduce single-use plastic in my life, I am urging the Howard County Council to do their part and vote in favor of the Plastic Reduction Act, CB13-2021. We must work to reduce all unnecessary single-use plastic. Straws, cutlery, stirrers and condiment packets are small, but they remain in our environment for hundreds of years. Yes, straws are made from thin material, but that allows them to break up into smaller pieces known as micro plastics more quickly. Yes, they are lightweight, but that makes it harder to assure they are properly disposed. Please support CB13-2021.

This is so much bigger than straws, cutlery, stirrers and condiment packets. We already know that plastic, and the chemicals that attach themselves to plastics in the water, can cause cancer, genetic disruptions and other ill effects.

We need to be good ancestors. Reducing single-use plastic items is a powerful step.

I frequently take clean-up walks around my local path system and I am always dismayed at the amount of plastic waste that I pull from the ponds, paths, and wooded areas. This plastic litter is heartbreaking, it hurts wildlife, and it makes our community look trashy. I would love to be able to take a walk without seeing so much single use plastic polluting our neighborhood.

Jennifer Kubina,
6249 Hidden Clearing, Columbia, MD 21045
District 2

Sayers, Margery

From: E Kato <euk369@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, February 8, 2021 7:21 PM
To: Rigby, Christiana
Subject: CB13-2021 - Support

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

Dear Del. Rigby,

Thank you for sponsoring this bill. I try to do the right thing and reduce single-use plastic in my life, and the Plastic Reduction Act, CB13-2021 will help. We must work to reduce all unnecessary single-use plastic.

Sincerely,
Elisabeth Kato
7335 Carved Stone
Columbia, MD 21045

Sayers, Margery

From: Hans and Marie Raven <hansandmarie.raven@verizon.net>
Sent: Friday, February 5, 2021 7:56 PM
To: Rigby, Christiana
Subject: CB 13-2021

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

Dear Councilmember Rigby,

As a resident of your district I am writing to you to ask you to vote for CB13-2021 and decrease additional plastic waste here in Howard County. Although the majority of restaurants have begun to ask through their online ordering system if plastic utensils are needed, they do not always pay attention to what the customer has indicated. I have a filled a plastic bag from the Cheesecake Factory with complete utensil and napkin sets I have received through ordering we have done just since the start of a pandemic. I was able to fill another almost empty box of BJs brand individual plastic forks knives and spoons as well from take-out orders as well. This is after consistently declining them on our online order or indicating that we didn't need them upon pick-up. I don't even want to estimate the number of plastic condiments packages of soy sauce, BBQ sauce, Chick-fil-A dipping sauces, and ketchup that we have also thrown away.

Given the absolute lack of recycling for plastic straws and the terrible contribution they make to pollution especially in our waterways, it is appropriate that their distribution also be severely limited within the county. If major business like the Disney corporation and Sea World can restrict the availability of plastic straws for their millions of guests each year, then so can we. It is important for us to respect our rivers and the Chesapeake Bay by supporting this legislation.

With thanks,
Marie

Marie Raven
Laurel, MD
301-317-8010 (home)

Sayers, Margery

From: Alisa Niefeld-Batiz <aniefelbatiz@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 4, 2021 7:46 PM
To: Rigby, Christiana
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 Members,

I am writing to request your support the Plastic Reduction Act, CB13-2021. Plastic straws are one of the most widely used, and therefore disposed of, plastic products. Plastic straws, cutlery, stirrers and condiment packets are not recyclable so they end up in landfills and incinerators as well as littering our streets, parks and roadsides, clogging our gutters, rivers, lakes, streams, and polluting our environment where they may persist for more than 200 years. The lightweight nature of straws, cutlery, stirrers and condiment packets increases the risk of not being properly disposed, finding there way into our waters. Once in our oceans, straws cutlery, stirrers and condiment packets harm and kill marine life and as the plastic break up, the microplastics absorbs toxic chemicals, enters the food chain, and harms or kills marine life.

Senator Tom Udall said it best, "The plastic pollution crisis is past the tipping point: our communities, our waterways and even our bodies are at risk. We are already bearing the cleanup costs of mountains of plastic waste, and it will only get worse for future generations".

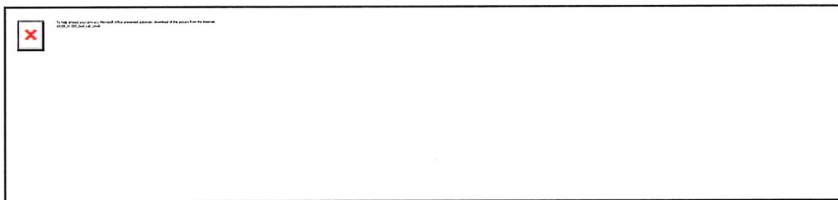
The CB13-2021 The Plastic Reduction Act will also allow for increase public awareness for single-use plastics and their nasty effects on the environment.

This will make Howard County one of the Counties with the strongest plastic reduction legislation.

Regards,

Alisa Niefeld-Batiz
Century 21 Redwood
410-215-0047

A REFERRAL IS THE BEST COMPLIMENT I CAN RECEIVE!



"We may encounter many defeats but we must not be defeated." — *Maya Angelou*

Sayers, Margery

From: Karen Hamming <khamming@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 4, 2021 2:44 PM
To: Rigby, Christiana
Subject: CB 13-2021 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.]

Hello,
I urge you to vote yes on **CB 13-2021 The Plastic Reduction Act**.
Thanks for all you do.

Karen Hamming

--
Always maintain a kind of Summer even in the middle of Winter -Thoreau

Sayers, Margery

From: Richard D <rdeutschmann2@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 9, 2021 8:59 AM
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

[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,

I am writing to request your support of the Plastic Reduction Act, CB13-2021. **Thanks to all that are sponsoring!** Plastic straws are one of the most widely used, and therefore disposed of, plastic products. Plastic straws, cutlery, stirrers and condiment packets are not recyclable so they end up in landfills and incinerators as well as littering our streets, parks and roadsides, clogging our gutters, rivers, lakes, streams, and polluting our environment where they may persist for more than 200 years. The lightweight nature of straws, cutlery, stirrers and condiment packets increases the risk of not being properly disposed, finding their way into our waters. Once in our oceans, straws, cutlery, stirrers and condiment packets harm and kill marine life and as the plastic break up, the microplastics absorbs toxic chemicals, enters the food chain, and harms or kills marine life.

Senator Tom Udall said it best, "The plastic pollution crisis is past the tipping point: our communities, our waterways and even our bodies are at risk. We are already bearing the cleanup costs of mountains of plastic waste, and it will only get worse for future generations".

The CB13-2021 The Plastic Reduction Act will also allow for increased public awareness for single-use plastics and their nasty effects on the environment.

This will make Howard County one of the Counties with the strongest plastic reduction legislation.

Richard & Vanessa Deutschmann
9485 Hickory Limb
Columbia, MD 21045
M – (410)707-4368

Sayers, Margery

From: Susan Levi-Goerlich <sulego@verizon.net>
Sent: Monday, February 8, 2021 6:42 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: 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 I fight to reduce single-use plastic in my life, I am urging the Howard County Council to do their part and vote in favor of the Plastic Reduction Act, CB13-2021. We must work to reduce all unnecessary single-use plastic. Straws, cutlery, stirrers and condiment packets are small, but they remain in our environment for hundreds of years. Yes, straws are made from thin material, but that allows them to break up into smaller pieces known as micro plastics more quickly. Yes, they are lightweight, but that makes it harder to assure they are properly disposed. Please support CB13-2021.

This is so much bigger than straws, cutlery, stirrers and condiment packets. We already know that plastic, and the chemicals that attach themselves to plastics in the water, can cause cancer, genetic disruptions and other ill effects.

We need to be good ancestors. Reducing single-use plastic items is a powerful step.

Susan Levi-Goerlich
6440 River Run, Columbia, Md 21044
District 4

Sayers, Margery

From: Rigby, Christiana
Sent: Monday, February 8, 2021 4:04 PM
To: LISA MARKOVITZ; CouncilMail
Subject: RE: cb13-2021
Attachments: Case: CS0012711 – opened and unassigned

Hi Lisa,

Thank you for reaching out, enforcement wouldn't begin until July 2022, does that address your concern?

Thanks!
Christiana

Christiana Rigby - *she/her/hers*
Councilwoman, District 3
Serving North Laurel, Savage, Columbia, Jessup and Guilford

Howard County Council
3430 Court House Drive, Ellicott City, MD 21043
crigby@howardcountymd.gov
410.313.4101



[Sign up for my newsletter!](#)

From: LISA MARKOVITZ <lmarkovitz@comcast.net>
Sent: Monday, February 8, 2021 2:29 PM
To: CouncilMail <CouncilMail@howardcountymd.gov>
Subject: cb13-2021

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

The People's Voice supports this bill with amendment to the enforcement time to be June instead of January. The pandemic has particularly hit the restaurant industry hard. We should give them more time to deplete supplies and order new materials. Also, we don't want a large dump of unusable plastic at once, as supplies are going out in such smaller amounts right now.

We signed a letter of support from Howard County Sierra but wanted to point out our desire to amend.

Thank you,
Lisa Markovitz
President, The People's Voice

Sayers, Margery

From: LISA MARKOVITZ <lmarkovitz@comcast.net>
Sent: Monday, February 8, 2021 2:29 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: cb13-2021

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

The People's Voice supports this bill with amendment to the enforcement time to be June instead of January. The pandemic has particularly hit the restaurant industry hard. We should give them more time to deplete supplies and order new materials. Also, we don't want a large dump of unusable plastic at once, as supplies are going out in such smaller amounts right now.

We signed a letter of support from Howard County Sierra but wanted to point out our desire to amend.

Thank you,
Lisa Markovitz
President, The People's Voice

Sayers, Margery

From: RoseMarie Meservey <rmmeserv@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, February 8, 2021 8:53 AM
To: CouncilMail; Jones, Opel; Ron Meservey
Subject: Please support 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 Members,

Dear County Council Members,

For the vast majority of the population, straws are unnecessary and wasteful. A ban on plastic straws will help change behavior as we move away from plastic waste. Please support the Plastic Reduction Act, CB13-2021. Plastic straws should be banned because the harm they cause vastly outweighs the benefit to society. There are a number of reusable and Earth-friendly options that are now replacing plastic, including bamboo, stainless steel, and glass. Single-use straws sourced from paper, pasta, hay and even seaweed are also viable options and can fully biodegrade in the natural environment.

Because straws are avoidable, they are a relatively easy step in a strategy to reduce and/or eliminate single-use plastics.

Even if one attempts to dispose of straw properly, they are easily carried away by the wind, ending up littering our beaches and in our oceans and waterways. Once in our oceans, straws harm and kill marine life and as the plastic breaks up, the microplastic absorbs toxic chemicals, enters the food chain, and harms or kills marine life.

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.

We live on a finite planet. We must reflect that reality in our actions.

Thanks so much Councilman Jones and to others who have sponsored this bill. Both my husband and I applaud your efforts and hope that all members of the Council will see the moral imperative of doing all possible to protect our environment for future generations.

RoseMarie (and Ron) Meservey
District 2

Sayers, Margery

From: Betty Rice <bettyrice@aol.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 7, 2021 10:56 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: HoCo 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.]

I strongly support the passage of **HoCo Plastic Reduction Act CB13-2021** and for that matter any other bill that reduces plastic usage throughout the county/MD.

Betty Rice
4046 Highpoint Rd EC 21042

Sayers, Margery

From: Rosemary Noble <roronoble@me.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 7, 2021 8:43 PM
To: CouncilMail
Cc: Walsh, Elizabeth
Subject: CB13-2021

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

Hello Ms. Walsh,

Thank you for introducing CB13 to further limit specific single use plastics in Howard County. While each of us has a responsibility to reduce plastic waste, this bill will have a large impact on the practices of restaurants, grocery stores, fast food establishments, and hopefully, awake a need for each of us to do our part. I struggle to find a way to reduce plastic in our home and am making small strides but I find there is much "automatic" use of plastics that is totally out of my control. In the days of ordering in, I have to learn to also request no plastic utensils. In the future I hope plastic food containers could be returned cleaned to the restaurant for reuse or restaurants will all change to paper containers that can be recycled. I also hope the green bin recycling program will expand to new zip codes, especially ours 21042.

Again, thank you for all of your effort to promote sustainable living in our changing environment.

Rosemary Noble
3719 Chateau Ridge Drive
Ellicott City, MD 21042

Sayers, Margery

From: Defne Demirekler <ddemirekler@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 7, 2021 2:29 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 Testimony (SUPPORT)

[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,

I am writing to request your support of the Plastic Reduction Act, CB13-2021.

As a high school student, the climate crisis is the largest issue facing us today. It is crucial to pass this piece of legislation to protect our environment. The plastic crisis continues to spiral out-of-control with no visible end in sight. This straw ban does not solve our problem, but it helps us get there. It sets an important precedent in our county so we can continue to be a driving force in the climate justice movement. My future is at stake. Our health is at stake. We must pass CB13.

Plastic straws are one of the most widely used, and therefore disposed of, plastic products. Plastic straws, cutlery, stirrers and condiment packets are not recyclable so they end up in landfills and incinerators as well as littering our streets, parks and roadsides, clogging our gutters, rivers, lakes, streams, and polluting our environment where they may persist for more than 200 years. The lightweight nature of straws, cutlery, stirrers and condiment packets increases the risk of not being properly disposed, finding their way into our waters. Once in our oceans, straws, cutlery, stirrers and condiment packets harm and kill marine life and as the plastic break up, the microplastics absorb toxic chemicals, enter the food chain, and harm or kill marine life.

Senator Tom Udall said it best, "The plastic pollution crisis is past the tipping point: our communities, our waterways and even our bodies are at risk. We are already bearing the cleanup costs of mountains of plastic waste, and it will only get worse for future generations".

The CB13-2021 The Plastic Reduction Act will also allow for increased public awareness for single-use plastics and their nasty effects on the environment.

This will make Howard County one of the Counties with the strongest plastic reduction legislation.

Defne Demirekler
12304 Wake Forest Rd
Clarksville, MD 21029
District 4, Deb Jung

Sayers, Margery

From: emmaelaine2@verizon.net
Sent: Sunday, February 7, 2021 2:21 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: In Support of 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 Members,

Please support the Howard County Plastic Reduction Act, CB13-2021. Straws may be small and lightweight, but they are a big problem. Plastic straws are an unnecessary utensil for the vast majority of people and are usually thrown away after just one use. The average American uses 1.6 straws a day. The population in Howard County in 2019 was 325,690. That means in Howard County alone produces 521,104 straws a day which immediately becomes trash! This wasteful product can easily be avoided by supporting The Plastic Reduction Act.

A big thank you to my representative, Liz Walsh, for co-sponsoring the Howard County Plastic Reduction Act.

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

We're drowning in plastic. Literally. By 2050, scientists predict there will be more plastic than fish in the world's oceans. And since plastic does not biodegrade, it will remain in our landfills and oceans for at least 200 years.

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

Let Howard County be the leader others will follow.

Signed,
Emma Bush
9808 Woodbridge Ct. Ellicott City, MD 21042
District 1

Sayers, Margery

From: Jamie Gabel <jamie.elizabeth03@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 7, 2021 2:21 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: Support for 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 Members,

We must fight plastic waste at every turn. Please vote yes to support Plastic Reduction Act, CB13-2021. Thank you Liz Walsh, Opel Jones, and Christiana Rigby for sponsoring this legislation. Straws may be small and lightweight but they're a BIG problem — *Americans use more than 500 million plastic straws each day*. That is enough to fill 125 school buses every single day. It is enough to circle the Earth 2.5 times.

Straws are often littered, or caught by the wind, and washed into storm drains that empty into streams, bays, and other waterways, and otherwise end up in our ocean and beaches. Plastic straws are frequently cited as one of the top ten contributors to marine debris pollution.

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

We are in a plastic pollution crisis. This bill is an important and necessary step to continue to remove single-use plastic from our environment.

This legislation is an important tool to continue to remind the citizens of Howard County the importance of single-use plastic reduction.

Jamie Gabel
9091 Northfield Rd, Ellicott City, MD 21042
District 1

Sayers, Margery

From: Justice Sefas <jds464@cornell.edu>
Sent: Sunday, February 7, 2021 2:19 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: 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 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, 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.

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

Thank you.

Justice Sefas
11460 Little Patuxent Parkway #503,
Columbia, MD, 21044
District 4

Sayers, Margery

From: Oliver Song <oliversong1216@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 7, 2021 2:16 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: Support for 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 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, 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.

Oliver Song, 5023 Rushlight Path, District 4

Sayers, Margery

From: Al Hersey <alhersey@hotmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 7, 2021 11:16 AM
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: Support for CB13-2021 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,

I am a constituent of Council member Jones. I would like to thank Council members Rigby, Jones and Walsh for introducing CB13-2021, The Plastic Reduction Act, which will help reduce unnecessary and dangerous single-use plastic.

We are drowning in plastic. 90 percent of the trash in our oceans are made of plastic.[1]
But that is not deterring the fossil fuel industry. Plastic production is expected to grow on average 3.5 to 4 percent per year through at least 2035. [2]

Continuing to place bans and regulations will allow us to amplify our voice against the plastic industry and help to create the cultural shift needed away from single-use items towards a circular economy.

Aside from creating a healthier, cleaner Howard County, this bill will also help other counties, and the state, pass similar legislation.

Thank you,
Al Hersey
9462 Farewell Rd
Columbia, MD

[1] <https://www.epa.gov/facts-and-figures-about-materials-waste-and-recycling/plastics-material-specific-data>

[2] <https://insideclimatenews.org/news/24012020/plastics-marine-oceans-climate-change-oil-gas-carbon-emissions/>

Sent from my iPad

Sayers, Margery

From: Petitegal <petitegal178@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, February 5, 2021 6:41 PM
To: Susan Hughen
Subject: support 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 Members,

Please vote yes to support Plastic Reduction Act, CB13-2021.

We cannot do this with individual action. My use of carry out has increased with the pandemic. I ask for no straw and it is still put in the bag. I ask for no ketchup packs and they are still put in the bag. My BuyNothing group is full of people looking for a use for all of the wrapped plastic utensils from school lunches.

We need BIG and BOLD action to reduce/eliminate all of this single use plastic. This legislation is an important tool to continue to remind the citizens of Howard County the importance of single-use plastic reduction.

Susan Hughen
9218 Log Chain Rd.
Columbia 21045

Sayers, Margery

From: Gabby Tyer <gabbyntyler@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 4, 2021 3:01 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: The 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 Members,

Hope you are having a wonderful morning/afternoon/evening,

I am an 11th grade student at Howard High School, and a constituent of Opel Jones. I am writing to ask that you please support the Howard County Plastic Reduction Act, CB13-2021. Many do not realize it, but single use plastic has a large part in the life of the average citizen, especially due to the pandemic. For example, takeout has become more and more common, and as a result, single use straws, utensils, and other single use plastic items have been used and thrown out more frequently. Also, single use plastic straws, cutlery, stirrers and condiment packets are not recyclable, meaning they end up in landfills and incinerators as well as littering our streets, parks and roadsides, clogging our gutters, rivers, lakes, streams, and polluting our environment where they may persist for more than 200 years. Did you know that plastic cutlery is one of the top ten items found in beach cleanups?

As said by former Senator Tom Udall, "The plastic pollution crisis is past the tipping point: our communities, our waterways and even our bodies are at risk. We are already bearing the cleanup costs of mountains of plastic waste, and it will only get worse for future generations."

As a student, and a young person who hopes to have children in the future, I feel that it is one of the top priorities to work toward taking better care of the environment. Not only would the reduction of single-use plastics such as plastic straws greatly improve the lives of wildlife and the quality of beaches and other public areas, but it could also help prevent health problems caused by microplastics in our food.

Fortunately, there are plenty of biodegradable options that could replace plastic straws. For example, reusable bamboo, stainless steel, and glass straws are becoming more common, as well as single use straws made from paper, pasta, hay, and also seaweed are options that can fully biodegrade in the natural environment.

This year, all of Canada and the EU will be banning single use plastic. Also, New Jersey, New York, Hawaii, and California, as well as Washington D.C, PG County, and Montgomery County have implemented a plastic straw ban. These areas have all seen reductions in plastic use.

Not only will the implementation of CB13-2021 help remind the citizens of Howard County about the importance of plastic reduction, but it will make a difference and promote a healthier environment for generations to come.

Thank you for your time and consideration! :)

Gabby Tyer
8225 Elko Drive Ellicott City, MD 21043

Sayers, Margery

From: Eileen Dubrov Will Foreman <beanandwill@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 4, 2021 1:50 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Fwd: here's your testimony for CB13

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

Dear Councilman Jones,

I am writing to request your support of the Plastic Reduction Act, CB13-2021. Plastic straws are one of the most widely used, and therefore disposed of, plastic products. Plastic straws, cutlery, stirrers and condiment packets are not recyclable so they end up in landfills and incinerators as well as littering our streets, parks and roadsides, clogging our gutters, rivers, lakes, streams, and polluting our environment where they may persist for more than 200 years. The lightweight nature of straws, cutlery, stirrers and condiment packets increases the risk of not being properly disposed, finding their way into our waters. Once in our oceans, straws, cutlery, stirrers and condiment packets harm and kill marine life and as the plastic break up, the microplastics absorbs toxic chemicals, enters the food chain, and harms or kills marine life.

Senator Tom Udall said it best, "The plastic pollution crisis is past the tipping point: our communities, our waterways and even our bodies are at risk. We are already bearing the cleanup costs of mountains of plastic waste, and it will only get worse for future generations".

The CB13-2021 The Plastic Reduction Act will also allow for increased public awareness for single-use plastics and their nasty effects on the environment.

This will make Howard County one of the Counties with the strongest plastic reduction legislation.

Eileen Dubrov
5341 Flight Feather 21045
District 2