

CB13-2021

Sayers, Margery

From: no-reply@howardcountymd.gov
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 9:23 AM
To: barebonesgrill@gmail.com
Subject: District 5 - Plastic Band

First Name: Derek
Last Name: Reese
Email: barebonesgrill@gmail.com
Street Address: 9150 Baltimore National Pk
City: Ellicott City
Subject: Plastic Band

Message: Seriously the Restaurants have struggled enough!!!! Let it be known that we have been repeatedly frowned upon and now you just want to add more to the punch!! Move on to the things that mean the most to others and stop copying what others have done and honestly cost them more money, but you don't know this!

Sayers, Margery

From: no-reply@howardcountymd.gov
Sent: Monday, March 1, 2021 5:15 PM
To: Info@hudsoncoastal.com
Subject: District 4 - Plastic clam shells

First Name: Brad
Last Name: Hudson
Email: Info@hudsoncoastal.com
Street Address: 11811 west marketplace
City: Fulton
Subject: Plastic clam shells

Message: Good day, As the owner of Hudson Coastal, I'd appreciate you considering an exception to the plastic clam shell food containers. Since they are recyclable they should be exempt. When putting together to go dishes during volume, it is near impossible to execute if you can't see the food in the container. Many of the items being considering are understandable but the recyclable food container that is microwaveable and locks on the edges to prevent leakage. Thanks for your consideration Brad Hudson

Sayers, Margery

From: Tim & Deb Lattimer <lattimertp@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 1, 2021 2:20 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Please approve 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 Council Members: I urge the County Council to enact CB13-2021 - "The Plastic Reduction Act." Thanks to Council Members Jones, Rigby, and Walsh for your leadership on this measure.

Enacting CB13-2021 will not only help our county in reducing its contribution to the long-term and highly destructive environmental impacts of plastic wastes (especially single-use plastics), it will also help in reducing our contribution to climate change. While international cooperation and national leadership on climate are important, we simply cannot solve the climate crisis without stronger action on multiple fronts at local and state levels. This includes curbing our consumption and disposal of plastics.

Let's make Howard County a leader on climate and sustainability. Your approval of CB13-2021 would be a good step in that direction.

Best regards, Tim Lattimer
Each Leaf Ct.
Columbia, MD 21045

Sayers, Margery

From: Claire Fagan <clarissa7500@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 28, 2021 2:35 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: I Support 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,

We must fight plastic waste at every turn. Please vote **yes** to support Plastic Reduction Act, CB13-2021. 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.

Sincerely,

Claire Fagan
District 5

Sayers, Margery

From: Lindsey Sands <lindsands@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 28, 2021 2:33 PM
To: CouncilMail

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

Lindsey Sands
10906 Cedar Oaks Lane
District 4

Dear County Council Members,

Thank you again for your interest in CB13, The Plastic Reduction Act.

First, I wanted to share video testimony created by a middle school student at Mount View Middle School:
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCyceZNIaPFMh4I50DEfMoQw>

I believe she helps to put everything into perspective.

Second, one of the topics brought up at the work session is the use of take-out containers.

With the startling facts that 40% of all plastic waste is from plastic packaging and less than 10% of all plastic ever produced has been recycled and 8 million tons of plastic end up in our oceans every year, it is clear we cannot continue with the current linear economy.

Thankfully, reuse and refill is now moving forward and becoming the norm. Howard County could be on east coast leaders following the innovative ideas on the west coast. For example, many restaurants in California has partnered with Dispatch Goods(<https://dispatchgoods.com/home>). California even has a mobile kiosk to refill items such as laundry detergent! But is not just the west coast. In 2019, New York chain Dig piloted a reusable bowl. Last fall, McDonalds announced a refillable cup pilot with TerraCycle's Loop in the UK. Burger King followed suit, also offering a reusable Whopper package.

Even closer to home, reuse is not a new concept in Maryland. The Reuse Company Ozzi (<https://www.planetozzi.com/>) is utilized at the University of Maryland.[1]

The business opportunities in Howard County is only as limited as our imagination.

Finally, I urge you to support CB13, The Plastic Reduction Act, for the sake of our health, our economy, our waste management and our finite planet. Let's move forward with reuse/refill options for a sustainable tomorrow.

Sincerely,
Lindsey Sands

[1]<https://dbknews.com/0999/12/31/arc-sqshmucww5fm5gkaujlbqs5vga/>

Sayers, Margery

From: Jolee :3 <issa.jolee@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 28, 2021 2:34 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: CB-13 needs your help!

[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 of, 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 breaks up, the microplastics absorb 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 an increase in 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.

Jolee Smith/6046 Red Clover Ln/D- 13

Sayers, Margery

From: Jamie Gabel <jamie.elizabeth03@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 28, 2021 2:33 PM
To: CouncilMail
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 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.

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

Sayers, Margery

From: Mandy Elder <mandy.elder@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 28, 2021 12:39 AM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: CB13 Plastic Reduction Bill

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

Hello,

I'm reaching out to you in support of the plastic reduction bill CB13.

As I strive to reduce waste wherever I can, one area that is a constant struggle is the automatic inclusions of straws, plastic utensils, napkins, and sauce packets in takeout food bags. And in a time when needs are so great for so many, these items continue to have very little value to people. I collect these items as they find their way into our home in hopes that they can serve some purpose, but it is very hard to find anyone that can actually use them.

I picture in my head, then, the manufacturing and distribution processes of these items at scale...all ending at a big dumpster. So many resources wasted, to end up directly in the "trash". We can do better, and I think this bill is needed to take a step in the right direction.

Thank you,
Mandy Elder
Columbia, MD

Sayers, Margery

From: Pete Alexander <gilsen@juno.com>
Sent: Friday, February 26, 2021 12:40 PM
To: CouncilMail
Cc: Pat Hersey
Subject: Please support CB13

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

Dear Council Members,

I'm writing to ask for your support of CB13, The Plastic Reduction Act.

We can't continue to kick this can down the road. Plastic pollution is a huge problem, not only globally, but also right here in Howard County. Roadside plastic trash is everywhere you look when driving in Howard County, and once its out there it takes hundreds of years to degrade. Worse, most of that discarded plastic ends up polluting our Chesapeake Bay and eventually the Atlantic Ocean creating a deadly problem for ocean wildlife. Eight million tons of plastic end up in our oceans every year. The Pacific Gyre is an enormous plastic trash dump.

Further, plastics are products made from fossil fuels. We don't need to be damaging environmentally sensitive regions with off-shore oil wells or oil pipelines to make plastics that create other waste problems.

I want to live in a sustainable community, and there are sustainable options to plastic bags, plastic food containers, and plastic cutlery. We need to step up and do the right thing now. There's no reasonable excuse not to pass CB13.

Sincerely,

Peter Alexander, PhD
15615 Camden Meadows Court
Woodbine, MD 21797
District 5

HCPSS Legislative Report

2021 Maryland General Assembly

As approved at the Board of Education Meeting February 25, 2021

Board Positions on County Council Bills

Bill Number	Introduced By
CB13-2021	Council Members Christiana Rigby, Opel Jones, and Liz Walsh

Bill text: <https://apps.howardcountymd.gov/olis/LegislationDetail.aspx?LegislationID=12666> (click title of bill to download text)

Council Summary: AN ACT to prohibit the sale or distribution of certain single-use straws and stirrers, certain condiment packets and certain plastic food ware by certain food service facilities and retail business entities under specified circumstances; providing for exceptions to the prohibition; requiring certain establishments to have specified materials; providing for enforcement of the prohibition; specifying the duties of the Office of Community Sustainability; requiring fines to be placed in a certain Fund; and generally relating to waste reduction in the County.

HCPSS Analysis: As written, CB13-2021 would apply to HCPSS schools as our kitchens are facilities licensed by the County Health Officer within the definition of “food service facility.” Under prohibitions of the bill, such facilities may not distribute straws, plastic condiment packets or plastic food wares (made of specific materials defined in the bill), except when requested by a customer, fall into an exemption for prepackaged items, or required to accommodate disabilities under the ADA or other laws.

HCPSS Food and Nutrition Services staff initially indicated CB13-2021 has the potential to increase costs by approximately \$120,000 per year for HCPSS food services operations. While staff supports the intent of this bill to be environmentally conscious, biodegradable items to replace plastic straws, plastic cups and other plastic foodwares would generally cost as much as 200 percent more than items currently used.

Following discussion with Councilwoman Christiana Rigby during the Committee’s meeting to explain the specific exceptions that would be allowed under the bill, including the allowed distribution of straws and plasticware when requested – rather than the use of an alternative/biodegradable material – Food and Nutrition Services staff believes costs would not be as originally estimated. Savings may also be realized from potential decreased use/purchase of such items over time.

BOARD POSITION: SUPPORT