

**Testimony in Support of S.B. 349:
An Act Concerning Single-Use Carryout Plastic and Paper Bags and the use of Reusable Bags
Submitted by Dorothy Lovett Buckley**

February 4, 2015

Senator Kennedy, Representative Albis, and members of the Environment Committee,

I am in support of Senate Bill 349 in phasing out the use of single-use carryout plastic and paper bags and implementing the utilization of reusable bags.

The use of petroleum and trees to manufacture disposable bags that are only used once represents an unsustainable and environmentally harmful practice that consumes limited natural resources, wastes energy and creates significant and growing amounts of pollution. This is a practice that should be discontinued," begins the Wilton, CT, Go Green Statement. I wholeheartedly agree. As co-chair of Immanuel Congregational Church United Church of Christ's Environmental Ministry Team we are working to make people aware of the need to care for the earth as well as educate them on how to do it. I have also worked with the United Church of Christ (UCC) Connecticut Conference and the group of UCC people in New England along with Episcopalians in the same area. I have also worked with the planning committee of the Interreligious Environmental Justice Network to plan their Environmental Summit meetings for the state of CT and beyond. Taking care of the earth is the greatest issue facing our state, our nation, and the world. Banning disposable bags is a first step toward making CT a green, beautiful and sustainable state.

Thank you for all your work and for the opportunity to supply written testimony in support of Senate Bill 349.

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