



TOWN OF
GREENWICH

Town Hall • 101 Field Point Road • Greenwich, CT 06830

Conservation Commission

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March 8, 2019

Sen. Christine Cohen, Co-Chair
Rep. Mike Demicco, Co-Chair
Environment Committee
Legislative Office Building, Room 3200 Hartford, CT 06106

Re: In Support of:

HB 1003- AAC SINGLE-USE PLASTIC AND PAPER BAGS
HB 5384- AN ACT ELIMINATING POLYSTYRENE FOOD SERVICE CONTAINERS
HB 5385- AN ACT ELIMINATING SINGLE-USE PLASTIC STRAWS
HB 7294- AAC BOTTLE REDEMPTION IN CONNECTICUT

Dear Senator Cohen and Representative Demicco,

The Town of Greenwich Conservation Commission is writing in support of the bills listed above. As a coastal community, Greenwich is keenly aware of the detrimental effects single-use plastics have on our valued coastal resources, and burden they pose to our infrastructure.

In March 2018, the Town of Greenwich adopted an ordinance banning single-use plastic bags at checkout. The ordinance has been well received by the community, as a whole, and adopted by our retailers with little difficulty. Based on our experience over the last year, the Conservation Commission urges the state to adopt HB 1003 with a key modification: institute a \$0.10 fee. This small charge is remarkably effective in motivating people to bring their reusable bags and will better ensure the ultimate goal of reducing the use of all single use bags, whether they be paper or plastic, is attained.

In addition to the bag ordinance, municipal staff and citizens in Greenwich are currently working on a "Skip the Straw" campaign. The town is "walking the walk," having banned vendors of our beach concession stands from using polystyrene, straws, and other single-use plastics where reasonable alternatives exist.

The Greenwich Conservation Commission urges support of House Bills 1003, 5384, 5385, and 7294 to foster a healthy, ecologically responsible, and an attractive living environment in Connecticut.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Patricia Sesto". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Patricia Sesto, Director

cc: Rep. Livvy Floren
Rep. Fred Camillo
Sen. Alex Bergstein
Sen. Stephen Meskers
First Selectman Peter Ji Tesei

Support of HB 1003, 5384, 5385, and 7294

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