Dear Members of the Environment Committee,

My name is Grace O’Connor and I am a resident of West Hartford. I am also a senior at the University of Connecticut.

I am writing today in strong support of H.B. 1003: An Act Concerning Single-Use Plastic and Paper Bags; and H.B. 5384: An Act Concerning Polystyrene Food Service Containers; and H.B. 5385: An Act Eliminating Single-Use Plastic Straws; and H.B. 7294: An Act Concerning Bottle Redemption. I am deeply concerned about the impact that plastic is having on the environment, and I feel that these bills address this problem in an effective way. We need to be taking steps like these to ensure that younger and future generations can enjoy life on a clean and safe earth.

While I feel that all these bills exemplify a step in the right direction, I believe that H.B. 1003 should be amended to include a charge on paper bags, in order to encourage consumers to bring their own reusable bags when shopping.

Thank you for reading my testimony.

Sincerely,

Grace O’Connor
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