March 11, 2019

Senator Christine Cohen, Co-chair  
Representative Mike Demicco, Co-chair  
Senator Julie Kushner, Vice Chair  
Representative Joe Gresko, Vice Chair  
Senator Craig Miner, Ranking Member  
Representative Stephen Harding, Ranking Member  
Members of the CGA Environment Committee

Dear Environment Committee Members:

Please be advised that the Milford Board of Aldermen in February, 2019 passed the attached resolution in support of a statewide ban on single-use plastic bags (SUPB). The vote was unanimous, and had the active support of Mayor Ben Blake, along with many residents and local groups.

In addition to supporting a statewide ban as represented by SB 1003, I wish to be recorded in favor of HB 7294, HB 7296, HB 5384, HB 5385, and SB 229. Plastics are a scourge in our state and threaten our environment. I worked as a Senate staffer on passage of the original Bottle Bill. I would encourage its expansion in order to capture additional products now finding their way into landfills, thus creating new markets, and providing more job opportunities for entry-level workers in the redemption process.

Thank you for your interest on behalf of Connecticut residents.

Best,

Bryan Anderson  
Alderman, City of Milford  
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Resolution Supporting a Statewide Ban on the Use of Single-Use Plastic Bags (SUPB)

Whereas, the City of Milford wishes to encourage its residents to discontinue use of single-use plastic bags; and

Whereas, Milford residents have displayed their enthusiastic support for environmentally-friendly ways to manage the disposal of products, including participation in curbside recycling and by signing petitions to ban single-use plastic bags; and

Whereas, strong evidence exists that certain products such as single-use plastic bags can cause harmful affects to land, air, or marine animals, spoil fragile ecosystems, create hazards for the marine industry and burden city Public Works operations; and

Whereas, the City of Milford has established a Recycling Task Force comprised of elected officials, environmental groups, City staff, industry representatives, and the public; and

Whereas, the Recycling Task Force held a successful Milford SUPB reduction event in October, 2018 in cooperation with ShopRite and Stop and Shop in Milford to demonstrate how reduction of an estimated use of xxx,xxx bags annually can be mutually beneficial to consumers and the food industry alike among others; and

Whereas, individual residents and environmental groups have established a priority list of initiatives, which include but are not limited to: product management, reduction or elimination of single-use plastic bags, plastic straws, styrofoam containers and trays, and other material that cannot be easily recycled or reused; and

Whereas, the Board of Aldermen notes that several municipalities have banned single-use plastic bags including Norwalk, Stamford, Westport, and Greenwich, with more pending municipal ordinances, and several bills have been introduced in the Connecticut General Assembly to enact a statewide ban; and

Whereas, it is agreed that after research and discussion in the City of Milford, a comprehensive approach toward controlling and eliminating SUPB is a preferred method.

Now, therefore, be it resolved that the City of Milford Board of Aldermen hereby indicates its strong support for the elimination of single-use plastic bags in an effort to preserve the beauty and safety of Milford’s natural environment and urges the State of Connecticut to enact a statewide ban of SUPB during the 2019 Connecticut General Assembly Session.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Milford’s state delegation, Members of the Connecticut General Assembly Environment Committee and legislative leaders, the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and Attorney General, the cities and towns of Hamden, Stonington, Norwalk, Stamford, Greenwich, and Westport, along with CCM, COST, and SCROG, and local, regional, and state environmental groups and agencies.