

RESOLUTION

PLANNING, ELECTIONS, INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

WHEREAS, any official position of the City of Los Angeles with respect to legislation, rules, regulations or policies proposed to or pending before a local, state or federal governmental body or agency must first have been adopted in the form of a Resolution by the City Council with the concurrence of the Mayor; and

WHEREAS, disposable plastic food service packaging makes up a disproportionately large share of non-recyclable waste, continues to grow at an unsustainable rate, and has been the second-most common category of litter found during California Coastal Clean-Up days since record-keeping began in 1989; and

WHEREAS, disposable food service packaging that fails to be captured for recycling or composting often makes its way into the natural environment where plastic packaging breaks into microplastics that are ingested by fish and other marine life; and

WHEREAS, a recent study by UC Davis surveying fish and shellfish sold at local fish markets found that a quarter of the fish and a third of the shellfish intended for human consumption contained microplastics; and

WHEREAS, these tiny plastic pieces have also made their way into the worldwide supply of drinking water, according to a 2017 study by Orb Media and the University of Minnesota School of Public Health which found microplastics in 80% of human drinking water all around the world – from New York to New Delhi; and

WHEREAS, with reusable, recyclable, and compostable alternatives easily available and affordable, there is no reason to continue using plastic materials like Styrofoam that are destined to pile up in our landfills and pollute our public space; and

WHEREAS, Senator Ben Allen has introduced State Bill 1335, which will require all food service packaging provided at state parks, beaches, and facilities to be reusable, recyclable, or compostable by 2021; and

WHEREAS, SB 1335 would ensure that food service vendors have easy access to information about acceptable materials by requiring CalRecycle to publish a public list of all acceptable material types on its website; and

WHEREAS, stemming the stream of non-sustainable food service packing is a necessary step in beginning to address the global environmental health crisis of plastic pollution and assist California in meeting its goal of diverting 75% of waste from landfills by 2020; and

WHEREAS, the City of Los Angeles has, through its Environmentally Preferred Purchasing Policy and by banning single-use grocery bags citywide as well as banning the use of polystyrene food containers in its facilities, established itself as a leader in supporting sustainable packaging efforts.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, with the concurrence of the Mayor, that by the adoption of this Resolution, the City of Los Angeles hereby includes in its 2017-2018 State Legislative Program SUPPORT for SB 1335 (Allen), which will require all food service packaging provided at California state parks, beaches, and facilities to be reusable, recyclable, or compostable by 2021.

PRESENTED BY:

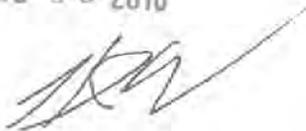


PAUL KORETZ
Councilmember, 5th District

SECONDED BY:



AUG 08 2018



ORIGINAL