

March 3, 2019

Dear Mayor Poe and City Commissioners,

We are writing to ask you to pass a resolution of support for HB 6033 and SB 88. Senator Linda Stewart of Orlando put forth the Senate bill and Anna Eskamani and Michael Grieco filed the bill in the House with the goal of deleting preemptions of local laws regulating auxiliary containers, wrappings, or disposable plastic bags, and repeal the preemption of local laws regarding the use or sale of polystyrene products. We feel very strongly that cities should be able to ban single-use plastic items and hope that the City of Gainesville will support these pieces of legislation.

Through tracking the Senate bill we know that in December 2018 it was referred to three committees: Community Affairs; Environment and Natural Resources; and Rules. The House bill was referred in February to three committees as well: Business and Professions Subcommittee; Local, Federal and Veterans Affairs Subcommittee; and Commerce Committee. We do not believe the bills have been discussed or voted on in any of these committees yet.

Gainesville is in a position given the recent ban on single use plastic bags and expanded polystyrene to make a difference for cities across Florida and to strongly stand by its decision and demonstrate to the State that we know what is best for our community and environment.

Thank you for considering this resolution,



Amanda Waddle and Nina Bhattacharyya
Zero Waste Gainesville