Diane Coveny 17 Botany Place LD 56

Dear Senator Denise Tepler, Representative Victoria Doudera and other Honorable Members of the Environment and Natural Resources Committee, Thank you for the opportunity to testify in this hearing.

I implore you to vote AGAINST LD 56, An Act to Remove the 5 Cent Fee for Bags in Retail Stores. Just as the world is truly discovering the length and breadth of the harm micro and nano plastics are wreaking in our environment and in our bodies, pulling back the stops to curb plastic use seems unconscionable. Why would you end a program that is actually doing good to help our environment?

I have been bringing reusable bags to the stores for decades. I started doing this as they were more durable and eliminated clutter. I continue to do it because it helps the planet I live on and contributes to the protection of my children and grandchildren. Now that we are aware of the harm these plastics are causing, why in good conscious would you eliminate this incentive?

Thank you.