

Patricia Ianni
Falmouth
LD 56

I strongly oppose LD 56 & LD 66 and Support LD 1122.

As an environmental scientist with over 40 years of working in the field of hazardous waste investigation and regulatory compliance, I would like to see all “single use, non-essential” plastics (including bags, packaging, and products) eliminated from our market stream and thus, reduced in our waste stream. The Maine Legislature should work to do this too.

These products can easily be replaced by alternatives which are reusable over the very long term, thus generating less waste overall when they are ultimately disposed of. I also would suggest in the interim that we raise the fee on bags to serve as a stronger incentive for customers to bring reusables. It takes time to change consumers habits, but it can happen.

When deciding on these bills and all other legislation, please consider the following:

- Human impacts on the environment should be evaluated in terms of the “long term” (i.e., evaluate the impacts made over the course of decades) AND evaluate the impacts over a broad geographic area (i.e., not just in the immediate vicinity where the impact occurs).
- Convenience is almost never good for your health or our environment.