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LD 1122

Good afternoon members of the committee. My name is Jess, and I am a resident of Portland and a concerned citizen in support of LD1122. As a member of the community, I was proud of the original law banning plastic bags and appalled to see them immediately replaced with thicker “reusable” bags that require more resources to produce but are still just as disposable (and just as non-recyclable) as the thinner bags they replaced. I am deeply concerned about the environmental impact of plastic waste, and I believe that reducing dependence on single-use bags, especially plastic bags, is a crucial step towards a more sustainable future for our planet and our state. Single-use plastic bags are a major source of pollution, both on land and in our waterways. They pose a serious threat to wildlife, who often mistake them for food or become entangled in them.

Plastic bags take hundreds of years to decompose, and in the meantime, they continue to pollute our environment. They also contribute to the growing problem of plastic pollution in our oceans, where they can harm marine life and disrupt ecosystems.

I urge you to support LD1122, to close the loophole that was created in the original bag ban and exploited by certain retail stores which has undermined the progress of our state’s plastic bag ban. By reducing our reliance on single-use plastic bags, we can make a real difference in protecting our planet for future generations.

Thank you for your time and consideration.