

Originating Committee: Environment and Ecology
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Intended Recipient: Missouri General Assembly

Repeal Missouri Legislation Outlawing Plastic Bags Ban

WHEREAS, in 2015 HB 722 passed, revising statute RSMo 260 section 260.283, outlawing bans on plastic bags statewide; and

WHEREAS, the statewide ban strips county, city, and district governments of the authority to make their own decisions regarding environmental regulations; and

WHEREAS, the legislature is considering additional legislation which would further limit local decisions to outlaw plastic bags and other single-use disposable materials; and

WHEREAS, according to Missouri Department of Natural Resources waste composition survey's final report in 2016-2017, Missourians threw away 655,644 tons of plastic; and

WHEREAS, plastic bags can easily find their way out of landfills and/or garbage trucks and into Missouri streams as they are lightweight and can be carried by wind; and

WHEREAS, it takes between 10 and 1,000 years for plastic bags to decompose in a landfill; and

WHEREAS, Missouri landscapes, including public lands, are littered by plastic bags even though trash cans and recycling programs are provided; and

WHEREAS, Missourians have the right to choose the level of environmental regulation in their communities and how they respond to plastic consumption; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED that the Conservation Federation of Missouri assembled at the Capitol Plaza Hotel, Jefferson City, MO, this 10th day of March, 2019, urges the Missouri General Assembly to revise Statute RSMo 260 section 260.283 to allow political subdivisions across Missouri to self-govern and decide for themselves whether or not to regulate plastic bag use, and other single-use plastics.

Keywords: plastic, bags, plastic bag, pollution, litter, ban, Statute RSMo 260 section 260.283

Expires: March 10th, 2024