

MONTEREY BAY SINGLE USE PLASTIC BAG BAN INITIATIVE – LETTER OF SUPPORT

We, the undersigned residents, support legislation to ban single-use plastic bags in our local jurisdictions, for the following reasons:

- Plastic is not biodegradable and stays in the environment for many, many years
- Plastic breaks down into smaller pieces that absorb toxic chemicals, are ingested by marine life, and enter the food chain that we depend on
- About 100 billion petroleum-based plastic checkout bags are used each year in the U.S., requiring an estimated 12 million barrels of oil annually
- Plastic bags litter our streets, sidewalks, beaches, parks, and overall environment; they are a visual and unnecessary environmental blight.
Reusable bags are an easy, attainable solution.

Benefits of local and regional bag legislation include:

- The public who live in areas along the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary will enjoy beaches, watersheds and parks that will no longer be littered with plastic bags
- Local government jurisdictions will spend less money on cleaning up plastic bag litter
- Local businesses will save money by not having to provide single-use bags
- The hundreds of species of marine animals that call this Sanctuary their home will no longer be threatened with suffocation or strangulation from plastic bags
- The visitors to this area will enjoy a clean environment, and experience model cities which are taking concrete actions towards sensible, modern, sustainable lifestyles.

We thank all local representatives for their time on this and hope we can effectively establish this small but significant change to represent the Monterey Bay.

Sincerely,

SIGNATURE	NAME – PRINT CLEARLY	ADDRESS

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