
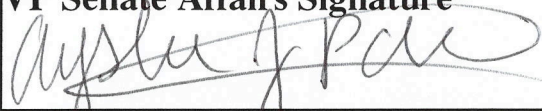


<b>Environmental and Animal Protection from Plastic Bill</b>		Date Introduced:		
<b>1415-0014</b>	Co-Sponsors: Roizin-Prior	Date of Voting:		
Prime Sponsor: Kelly		Final Vote:	Sens Present	
<b>Recommendation</b>		Yea	Nay	Abstain
President's Signature 		VP Senate Affairs Signature 		

**Whereas**, less than 1% of all single-use plastic bags are recycled in the United States; and

**Whereas**, it is difficult to recycle single-use plastic bags in the City of Ithaca and at Ithaca College; and

**Whereas**, the State of California, over 170 counties, towns, and cities, including the Island of Hawaii, Portland, ME, Portland, OR, Austin and Dallas, TX, and Seattle, WA, and several universities have already banned the distribution of single-use plastic bags; and

**Whereas**, over 200 Ithaca College students & 550 people world-wide have recently signed an online petition asking for single-use plastic bags to be banned from being distributed at Ithaca College; and

**Whereas**, ingested plastic bags are the cause of death of over 2 million water fowl, whales, dolphins, seals, sea lions, and turtles every year, and are also the cause for countless other animal deaths; and

**Whereas**, approximately 80% of all plastic water bottles are not recycled; and

**Whereas**, 12 million barrels of oil are used in the production of single-use plastic bags in the United States annually; and

**Whereas**, the use and burning of oil and other fossil fuels is contributing to made-made global climate change; and

**Whereas**, global climate change is causing issues that are costing the lives of humans and animals around the world; and

**Whereas**, there are 46,000–1,000,000 pieces of plastic debris floating near the surface of every square mile of ocean worldwide; and

**Whereas**, over 100 billion plastic bags are used annually in the United States; and

**Whereas**, degraded plastics collect PCBs and DDT at levels up to 1,000,000 times the levels found in seawater, and contaminate soil and water; and

**Whereas**, a single plastic bags can take up to 1,000 years to degrade; and

**Whereas**, almost all items sold in stores on the Ithaca College campus are small and light enough to be carried by hand, backpack, or reusable bag; and

**Whereas**, Ithaca College would save at least \$0.10 per bag by not distributing single-use plastic bags on campus; and

**Whereas**, banning single-use plastics would promote the eco-friendliness of Ithaca College, and would be a beneficial step for the Sustainability Initiative that the college has instated; therefore it be

**Resolved**, that the Student Government Association (SGA) recommends, in the strongest possible terms, that single-use plastic bags be banned from being distributed on campus and that single-use plastic bags not be purchased with Ithaca College funds; and it be further

**Resolved**, that the SGA recommends that, if offered to customers at on-campus stores, Ithaca College place a \$.05 or more price on each single-use paper bag that is distributed; and it be further

**Resolved**, that the SGA recommends that Ithaca College strive to distribute reusable, washable bags to all incoming Freshman for their personal use, in lieu of single-use bags, starting in the Fall of 2015.