



CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND

SB 285/HB 109 Support

Environment and Transportation & Economic Matters Committees

Wednesday, February 6, 2019

SB 285 / HB 109: Environment – Expanded Polystyrene Food Service Products - Prohibition

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The City of Takoma Park passed a ban on polystyrene packaging and food-service ware in 2015 and applauds the introduction of SB 285/HB 109 which would extend a similar a ban to the entire state without preempting local prohibitions already in place.

In addition to being a neurotoxin that is classified as “reasonably anticipated to be a human carcinogen,” polystyrene is also non-recyclable. Once discarded, it persists in the environment for many years. We were excited to learn that a State ban had been proposed during the 2017 session. We have supported a statewide ban since initially introduced, and continue to support such a ban now.

More information about the City of Takoma Park’s ban, including resources for those who use food-service ware and packaging and are interested in learning more about alternative options, is available on the City’s website:

<https://takomaparkmd.gov/initiatives/polystyrene-ban/>

In sum, the City of Takoma Park strongly supports SB 285 and HB 109 and urges a favorable vote.