



Legislative & Rules Committee – Board of Representatives

Phil Berns, Chair

Sean Boeger, Vice-Chair

Committee Report

Date: Tuesday, January 28, 2025
Time: 7:00 p.m.
Place: *This meeting was held remotely.*

The Legislative & Rules Committee met as indicated above. In attendance were Vice-Chair Boeger and Committee Member Reps. Cottrell, Fedeli, Matheny, Sherwood, and Vandervoort. Also in attendance were Reps. Camporeale, de la Cruz, Summerville, and Walston; Dana Lee, Corporate Counsel. Absent or excused were Chair Phil Berns, Reps. Blank, and Pierre-Louis.

Vice-Chair Boeger called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

Item No.	Description	Committee Action
1. LR31.091	ORDINANCE for discussion; on banning the sale, provision, and distribution of single use plastic products in food and beverage establishments. 01/06/25 – Submitted by Reps. Camporeale, Cottrell, de la Cruz, Sherwood, and Ley	Motion to recommit 6/0/0

Rep. Camporeale spoke about the executive order aimed at implementing measures to combat climate change and promote sustainability. In response, Resolution 4130 was introduced:

- Referred to as “skip the stuff,” retailers are not allowed to automatically give customers single use plastic items.
- Retailers are not allowed to ask customers if they want a single use plastic item. The customer must ask.
- The single use plastic item must be made from compostable / biodegradable materials that are PFAS free and BPI certified.
- Facilities with “dine in” services must provide only reusable cups, bowls, dishes, trays, chop sticks, flatware, and ramekins.
- Stamford’s recycling machinery is currently incapable of processing flatware-shaped items.

Corporate Counsel Lee elaborated on the constraints and potential actions related to the ordinance:

- The implementation period could take six to twelve months.
- Fines will range from \$150 to \$250.

Rep. Sherwood discussed the health impacts of using plastic:

- Microplastics affect almost every major organ system. Areas most studied are:
 - The gastrointestinal (GI) system
 - Negatively affects the balance of the gut microbiome.
 - Causes inflammation which could lead to cancer, rheumatoid arthritis, heart disease, and other serious illnesses.
 - The nervous system
 - Diminishes children's ability to learn.
 - Affects the memory.
 - Contributes to cognitive decline.
 - The endocrine system
 - Disrupts a woman's monthly cycle.
 - Causes infertility.
 - Affects a man's ability to produce testosterone.
- The average American consumes about five grams of plastic per week.

A motion to recommit Item 1 was made, seconded, and approved by a vote of 6-0-0 (Vice-Chair Boeger, Reps. Cottrell, Fedeli, Matheny, Sherwood, and Vandervoort in favor).

Vice-Chair Boeger adjourned the meeting at 8:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Phil Berns, Chair

This meeting is on [video](#).