

Written Testimony for HB 314

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Niamh McQuillan

There are 8.3 billion tons of plastic in the world. 91% of plastic isn't recycled. By 2050 it is estimated that the weight of plastic in the ocean will equal the weight of animals in the ocean. Over the last ten years we have produced more plastic than during the whole of the last century.

50% of the plastic produced is single-use plastic. Plastic bags are a significant contributor to this alarming statistic. 500 billion plastic bags are used world wide-which translates into 1 million plastic bags being used every minute.

As guardians of our earth and our children, we have a long way to go to rectify the egregious environmental impact of plastic production and usage. Banning plastic bags as prescribed in HB314 is a significant first step to preserving the health of our world and future generations.

I urge you all to support the passage of HB 314-The Plastic Bag Reduction Act.

Sincerely,

Niamh McQuillan