

December 2, 2019  
3109 Portsmouth Avenue  
Cincinnati, OH 45208

To: Chairman Manning, Vice Chairman Brenner, Ranking Member Maharath and members of the Committee:  
From: Ralph Brueggemann  
Date: December 2, 2019  
Subj: Ohio Senate Bill 222

Thank you for the opportunity to address my concerns on Ohio Senate Bill 222. The restrictions imposed by Ohio Senate Bill 222 place an unnecessary and impractical constraint on Ohio communities to provide oversight and manage their own decision-making. This is contrary to our core values.

We are generating huge amounts of resilient manufactured material, like plastics, that are accumulating as waste in our landfills, oceans, and our human bodies with unknown health consequences. The amount of recycled mixed plastics material that can be reused in the circular economy has been limited to less than 10% because of its poor quality.<sup>1</sup> Mixed plastics are typically grey in color, have contaminants that present regulatory concerns, and have odors. The mixed plastic material is accumulating in landfills and in the oceans because it almost never degrades.

There are more effective long-term solutions for managing our plastics. For example, a polymer chemist at P&G in Cincinnati developed a process that purifies the plastic to produce clear, odorless, nontoxic pellets that can be used to make a 100% recycled bottle.<sup>2</sup>

This process innovation uses low-energy and restores mixed polypropylene into colorless pellets that can be used in food-grade applications. P&G has licensed the technology to [PureCycle Technologies](#), Hanging Rock, Ohio, whose aim is to make plastic indefinitely recyclable.<sup>3</sup>

A viable solution regarding plastics, it to encourage entrepreneurship and innovation rather than placing restrictions on local decision-making. I would like to recommend that you oppose Ohio Senate Bill 222 because it does not provide a viable long-term solution to promote sustainability.

Sincerely,

*Ralph Brueggemann*

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<sup>1</sup> Laignee Barron, Repurposing Plastic, Time Magazine, December 2019, accessed November 25, 2019, <https://time.com/collection/best-inventions-2019/5733139/purecycle/>

<sup>2</sup> Emily Chasan, "There's Finally a Way to Recycle the Plastic in Shampoo and Yogurt Packaging," September 25, 2019, Bloomberg Business Week, accessed November 25, 2019, <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/features/2019-09-25/polypropylene-plastic-can-finally-be-recycled>

<sup>3</sup> PureCycle Technologies, accessed November 25, 2019, <https://purecycletech.com/>