

LOCAL GOVERNMENT, PUBLIC SAFETY AND  
VETERANS AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Witness Form

Today's Date Dec 2, 2019

Name: David Rossini, Acting Director

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Telephone: (303) 801-0582

Organization Representing: Environment Ohio

Testifying on Bill Number: Senate bill 222

Testimony:  Verbal  Written  Both

Testifying As:  Proponent  Opponent  Interested Party

Are you a Registered Lobbyist?  Yes  No

Special Requests: N/A

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Written testimony is a public record and may be posted on the Ohio Senate's website

WRITTEN TESTIMONY:

Ohio Senate Local Government, Public Safety and Veterans Affairs Committee  
December 2, 2019

We, Environment Ohio, write to oppose Senate Bill 222. We support the regulation of bags and auxiliary containers, especially those made of plastic and designed for single-use. Nothing we use for a few minutes should pollute our environment and threaten local wildlife for centuries.

Single-use plastic waste continues to pollute our state, as evidenced by the 22 million pounds of plastic waste that enter our Great Lakes each year. Discarded bottle caps, plastic bags, foam cups, straws and other single-use plastic products line their shorelines. Studies have shown some of this plastic waste ends up in the stomachs of fish, birds, and other wildlife, often endangering or killing them.

We have an opportunity to be better. Already, Orange Village, Bexley and Cuyahoga County have passed bans on specific single-use plastic products. We should be empowering more cities and counties to do the same in order to build a healthier, safer Ohio.