

BEFORE THE COUNCIL OF THE
METROPOLITAN SERVICE DISTRICT

FOR THE PURPOSE OF SUPPORTING) RESOLUTION NO. 89-1098
PROPOSED SOLID WASTE BILLS FOR)
THE 1989 STATE LEGISLATIVE) Introduced by Councilors
SESSION) Gardner and Hansen for
) the Council Legislative Task
) Force and Solid Waste Committee

WHEREAS, The Metropolitan Service District was created by legislative action and vote of the people within the District boundary for the purpose of addressing specific regional problems and consolidating regional services; and

WHEREAS, The Metropolitan Service District has identified legislative bills to support, promote and enhance the District's ability to continue to provide solid waste disposal services as provided for in Oregon State Statutes, Chapter 268.317 et seq.; and

WHEREAS, The Metro Plastics Recycling Task Force has considered various solid waste bills and has made recommendations to the Joint Metro legislative Task Force and Solid Waste Committee; and


WHEREAS, The Joint Metro Legislative Task Force and Solid Waste Committee have held public hearings on several solid waste bills and has made recommendations to the Council of the Metropolitan Service District; now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED,

1. That the Council of the Metropolitan Service District supports the solid waste legislative bills attached hereto as Exhibits A through D; and

2. That the Council of the Metropolitan Service District opposes the solid waste legislative bill, SB 424, attached hereto as Exhibit E.

ADOPTED by the Council of the Metropolitan Service District this 25th day of May, 1989.


Mike Ragsdale, Presiding Officer

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RESOLUTION NO. 89-1098 FOR THE PURPOSE OF SUPPORTING
PROPOSED SOLID WASTE BILLS FOR THE 1989 LEGISLATIVE
SESSION.

Date: May 15, 1989

Presented by: Councilor Gardner

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Joint Metro Legislative Task Force and Solid Waste Committee recommends Council support of HB3482, SB344 and SB352. Separate votes were taken on each of the bills. The voting was unanimous in each case. Councilors voting: Gardner, Hansen, Buchanan, Kelley, Knowles, Ragsdale and Wyers. This action taken May 12, 1989.

COMMITTEE DISCUSSION/ISSUES

The Plastics Recycling Task Force recommended to the Joint Metro Legislative Task Force and Solid Waste Committee support of HB3482, SB344, SB352 and SB1083. The Plastics Recycling Task Force does not support SB424. The Task Force considered SB990 on March 13, 1989 and suggested changes to the bill but has not reviewed the bill in its amended form. It will consider the bill at its next meeting on May 22, 1989.

HB3482 - Establishes a Resource Conservation Trust Fund through the sale of revenue bonds for \$300 million by the State Department of Environmental Quality. The trust fund principle would be "inviolable"; program funding would come from trust fund interest and would be dedicated to recycling programs and to wildlife, up to 45 percent each. The bill imposes a surcharge of three-fourths of one percent on disposable goods and lead-acid batteries to repay the revenue bonds, with exceptions for "multiple use objects" and materials that are "effectively recycled" at a rate of 85 percent. An eleven-member Resource Conservation Trust Fund Board would oversee the fund. The Joint Committee expressed concern over the Trust Fund Board composition and the lack of representation for the recycling industry. It was noted the proposed Board composition is likely to be amended and there is even the possibility of having two boards; one to oversee the recycling program funding and another to focus on wildlife.

SB344 - This bill requires labeling of plastic containers to facilitate recycling. The provisions of the bill are also included in SB990 (establishes the Solid Waste Reduction Act). The Joint Committee noted that the effective date of SB344 is July 1, 1990 and questioned whether this created a burden for the plastics industry. Representatives of the plastics industry testified that this would not create a significant problem.

SB352 - Prohibits sale of beverage containers connected by separate holding device of plastic rings unless holding device is composed

of materials that are degradable within 120 days after exposure to natural environmental conditions. The provisions of this bill are also included in SB990. No issues were raised by the Joint Committee regarding this bill.

SB990 - This bill establishes the Solid Waste Reduction Act; prohibits restaurants and certain food vendors from using certain polystyrene from packaging products; requires labeling of plastic products; and, requires that rings connecting beverage containers be designed to fragment when container is removed and be degradable after average of 120 days upon exposure to bacteria, light or outdoor elements.

The Joint Committee asked about perforated holding devices. A representative of the plastics industry stated that the perforated devices have proven to be unworkable.

As was noted earlier, SB990 contains provisions regarding labeling of plastic containers and the use of plastic rings that are similar to provisions found in SB344 and SB352 respectively. The major differences are that SB990 also includes a requirement that plastic containers, the label and cap, be composed of only one material or plastic resin type, unless any additional material is readily removed for recycling purposes. SB990 expands the use of degradable plastic connection rings to all beverage containers. SB352 first included metal beverage containers.

The Joint Committee expressed some concern about the proposed ban on polystyrene foam containers included in SB990. Bans on plastic or other non-biodegradable materials for specific uses may not reduce waste and may only cause switching between materials.

The Joint Committee forwarded SB990 to Council without recommendation because a quorum was not present at the time the bill was considered.

SB1083- This bill allows a tax credit for equipment, property or machinery necessary to collect, transport, or process reclaimed plastic used to make reclaimed plastic product. This bill was not considered by the Joint Committee because there was not a quorum present. It is forwarded to Council without recommendation.

SB424 - Establishes requirements for local government conducting collection program for household or small quantity generator hazardous waste. Allows DEQ to impose annual solid waste disposal site fee. The Joint Committee forwarded this bill to Council without recommendation because a quorum was not available. The Solid Waste Department opposes SB424 for various reasons. One of the major reasons is that it would increase tipping fees.

POLICY STATEMENTS

The Joint Committee is forwarding to Council, without recommendation, policy statements regarding plastic recycling vs. banning, labeling and coding of plastics, funding mechanisms, education, degradable plastics, wine coolers and market development. These policy statements were prepared by the Plastics Recycling Task Force. The Joint Committee did not have an opportunity to consider the policy statements.

Adoption of Resolution No. 89-1098 would indicate Council support of HB3482, SB344 and SB352 as recommended by the Plastics Recycling Task Force and the joint meeting of the Council Legislative Task Force and Solid Waste Committee.

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