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●●● Innovative solutions for a sustainable future

May 4, 2026

Alaska Senate State Affairs Committee  
120 4<sup>th</sup> Street  
Juneau, AK 99801

Via email only

On behalf of the EPS Industry Alliance (EPS-IA) and our members, please consider the following in opposition to HB 25 – An Act Relating to Disposable Food Service Ware and Containers Provided by Customers.

The EPS Industry Alliance (EPS-IA) represents manufacturers of expanded polystyrene (EPS) protective packaging for consumer goods such as electronics, appliances, cold ship pharmaceuticals and other durable and sensitive products, as well as building insulation and other applications. EPS packaging is essential for the safe and efficient delivery of seafood, agriculture products and temperature sensitive materials including medications and biological materials.

Claims made about EPS products during the recent hearing on HB 25 by the Alaska Senate State Affairs Committee worked only to enhance misinformation about polystyrene. Each of the three speakers focused on the recyclability of EPS, stating that foamed polystyrene cannot be recycled. EPS can be effectively recovered using densification and recycling systems through hundreds of collection points across North America, with industry member Insulfoam taking foam for recycling in Anchorage. Recovered EPS is actively used in a range of durable applications, contributing to circular material flows rather than waste.

The health impacts of polystyrene products were also part of the core message points of the speakers. While styrene and other chemicals are involved in the production of EPS, the process renders it inert. For decades, polystyrene has been safe for use in direct food contact materials such as egg cartons, meat trays, plates, cups, and takeaway containers. Polystyrene and foamed polystyrene prevent food waste and assures the safety of produce, vegetables, seafood, and other agricultural products.

We would be very appreciative if we could provide additional information or answer any questions regarding EPS and respectfully request your consideration of this opposition.

Sincerely,

Walter Reiter  
President  
EPS Industry Alliance