# HB 25 Written Testimony 2-25-25

## **Stuart Relay**

From: Patti Saunders

Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2025 1:09 PM

To: House State Affairs

Subject: HB 25

Follow Up Flag: Follow up Flag Status: Flagged

#### To the committee members:

Please support HB 25. Polystyrene/styrofoam is toxic and linked with an array of adverse health problems. It has no place in food packaging where it can migrate into the food and thence into our bodies. There are many safe, economical, non-toxic alternatives for restaurants to use. Please do what is right for Alaskans and their families -- do not put the chemical industry's desire for continued profits before Alaskans' health.

Patti J. Saunders

Anchorage, AK 99507

### **Stuart Relay**

From:

Emily Cohen

Sent:

Thursday, February 20, 2025 4:00 PM

To: Subject: House State Affairs Support for HB 25

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Hello,

My name is Emily Cohen, and I am a resident of Anchorage. I am writing to express my support for House Bill 25 to restrict the use of polystyrene (styrofoam) by restaurants. Styrofoam is one of the worst forms of plastic pollutants and expellers of microplastics, posing harm to both the human body and to Alaska's waters, land, and animals. Too often, I see styrofoam litter around Anchorage, breaking down into small pieces of plastic in our streams and gutters. Additionally, as a consumer, I prefer using paper to-go materials. Styrofoam is not microwaveable, is punctured easily, and leeches harmful chemicals into our food. Please support HB 25 to promote Alaskans' health and the beauty of our state.

Thank you, Emily Cohen

## Stuart Relay

From:

nava bastani

Sent:

Friday, February 21, 2025 1:52 AM

To:

**House State Affairs** 

Subject:

House Bill 25 - Restrict Restaurant Use of Polystyrene

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Please support HB 25 which would prevent restaurants from using disposable polystyrene foam in food service ware, encouraging the adoption of biodegradable or compostable alternatives.

Every time I go to a restaurant that uses polystyrene I feel a little sick that it is still in use and I hardly ever go back.

Polystyrene foam (also called "styrofoam") contains the chemical styrene, which has been linked to health harms including certain cancers, such as leukemia and lymphoma. When used to hold hot or warm foods, styrene leaches into the food and can then be ingested. The manufacturing of styrene also presents a threat to workers' health.

We are struggling with so many serious issues. This is a small action that will have ripple affects as it safegaurds our health, our environment and our communities.

Nava Sarracino

## **Stuart Relay**

From:

frank lahr

Sent:

Friday, February 21, 2025 6:53 AM

To:

House State Affairs

Subject:

HB 25 Support

Follow Up Flag:

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I support HB 25 to ban the use of polystyrene packaging in Alaskan restaurants. These products are not biodegradable and will remain in our environment through many generations of humans. They are lightweight and can easily be spread around by nature and then consumed by fish and other wildlife. Humans consume these animals and also the plastics.

There are biodegradable substitutions that should be used instead. This is not a big ask for restaurants and their patrons to support.

Thank you, Frank Lahr