



## Resolution No. 183-19

### Resolution Urging New York State To Implement A Statewide Ban On The Use Of Polystyrene (Foam) As A Disposable Food Container By Food Service Establishments In New York State

WHEREAS, Polystyrene foam is a common environmental pollutant and non-biodegradable substance commonly used as food service ware and that there is no meaningful recycling or reuse of polystyrene foam service ware like food containers and cups; and

WHEREAS, the Environmental Protection Agency has found that polystyrene manufacturing process is the fifth largest creator of hazardous waste in the United States; and

WHEREAS, there is evidence that suggests that a component of polystyrene foam, styrene, is a carcinogen and neurotoxin and according to the EPA studies, styrene is now detectable in the fat tissue of every man, woman and child in the United States; and

WHEREAS, there are cost-effective, biodegradable, compostable and/or reusable food service ware readily available. Such alternatives are less toxic and more environmentally friendly than polystyrene foam; and

WHEREAS, New York State Senator Kavanagh has sponsored Senate Bill S8078 and Assemblywoman Rozic has sponsored Assembly Bill A9692 which can be used as models for reducing the use of polystyrene in the food industry and help reduce associated health concerns and waste disposal costs;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Greene County Legislature calls upon Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and the New York State Legislature to write and implement a statewide ban on the use of polystyrene foam as containers for the storage of or consumption of food products by food service establishments; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that certified copies of this resolution be sent by the Clerk of the Legislature to Governor Andrew M. Cuomo, Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins, Assembly Speaker Carl Heastie, Senator George A. Amedore, Jr., Assemblyman Chris Tague and the New York State Association of Counties.

#### Meeting History

06/05/19 Public Safety

MOVED FOR ADOPTION

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>MOVED FOR ADOPTION [5 TO 3]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	William B. Lawrence, Chairperson
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Edward Bloomer, Legislator
<b>AYES:</b>	Lawrence, Bloomer, Gardner, Thorington, Lennon
<b>NAYS:</b>	Charles A. Martinez, Patricia Handel, Patrick Linger

**Current Meeting**

06/19/19      Greene County Legislature      ADOPTED

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>ADOPTED [9 TO 5]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	William B. Lawrence, Majority Leader/Legislator
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Edward Bloomer, Harry A. Lennon
<b>AYES:</b>	Bloomer, Davis, Gardner, Keller, Lawrence, Lennon, Luvera, Thorington, Linger
<b>NAYS:</b>	Bulich, Handel, Hobart, Martinez, Overbaugh

(6,826)    (3,174)  
Ayes 9    Noes 5    Absent 0

*CC: Treasurer*  
*1- Co Atty*  
*1- Jew Cuomo*  
*1- Sen Majors Stewart Cousin*  
*1- Assemb Spkr. Heastie*  
*1- Sen. Amedon*  
*1- Assemb Tague*  
*1- NYSAC (via email)*  
*1- Co. CLK*  
*2- file Co. Atty -*  
*1- Linda*

APPROVED AS TO FORM  
EDWARD I. KAPLAN, ESQ.  
GREENE COUNTY ATTORNEY