



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 3193		DATE: 4/16/2026	
COMMITTEE: Conservation and Natural Resources			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: ABIGAIL M HOARD		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/15/2026 11:51 AM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

I am writing in strong support of Missouri House Bill 3193.

HB 3193 is a practical, locally empowered approach to addressing the growing environmental and economic impacts of single-use plastics in our state. By repealing Missouri’s plastic bag pre-emption law, this bill restores decision-making authority to municipalities—allowing communities to adopt policies that reflect their unique values, infrastructure, and environmental priorities.

Across Missouri, cities and towns face different challenges when it comes to waste management, stormwater systems, and public space maintenance. A one-size-fits-all statewide prohibition on local action limits innovation and prevents communities from implementing solutions that work best for them. HB 3193 corrects this by giving local governments the flexibility to respond thoughtfully and responsibly.

The bill also takes an important step forward by phasing out single-use plastics in Missouri State Parks concessionaire operations. Our state parks are among Missouri’s most valued natural assets. Reducing plastic waste in these environments helps protect wildlife, preserve water quality, and maintain the natural beauty that residents and visitors alike depend on. This is a common-sense measure that aligns public operations with stewardship values.

Importantly, HB 3193 does not impose a blanket ban statewide. Instead, it creates space for local leadership while setting a clear example within state-managed lands. This balanced approach supports both environmental responsibility and local autonomy.

Missourians care deeply about clean communities, healthy ecosystems, and responsible governance. HB 3193 reflects those values. I respectfully urge you to support its passage.

Thank you for your time and consideration.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: ALYSON EWALD		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/15/2026 7:29 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

Single-use plastic bans are a great idea! We have many, many better options. Single use plastic bottles are bad for babies and other parts of nature.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: ANDREA LUBERSHANE		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 4/15/2026 10:54 AM

**THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.
PLEASE LET US STOP SINGLE-USE PLASTIC PRODUCTS**

The horror stories of what happens to neglected single-use plastic bags abound. Left to fly into trees, fall into sewer systems and pollute the waterways - all to the detriment of our natural world's citizens - plants, animals - from the smallest insect to the largest whale - all can suffer horrible lingering deaths - or just deaths - from this surfeit of plastic.

Not just the cost to lives on this planet, but the financial cost of cleanup and remediation is high.

I lived in Evanston, IL, where the municipality made the choice to limit single-use plastic bags and encourage use of paper bags at grocery stores some years ago. Two years ago, it made an even firmer commitment to outlawing single-use plastic bags. Chicago also has similar policies in place.

I would like to see University City where I live have the opportunity to take the same steps. As well as the adjacent City of St Louis.

So please support HB 3193 to repeal Missouri's plastic bag pre-emption law, which would allow municipalities to decide for themselves whether to restrict plastic bags; and would also provide a phase-out of single-use plastics in Missouri State Parks concessionaire operations.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: ANDY BURKEMPER		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/15/2026 2:44 PM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

I fully support this bill to reduce unnecessary single-use plastic in Missouri!



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: ANNA L CARREON		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/15/2026 2:43 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

As we all know, micro plastics and nano plastics are wreaking havoc on our health. It is contributing to the rapid and seismic decline in birth rates due to its endocrine-disrupting effects. It is contributing to record high rates of multiple cancers in the youngest age group these have shown up before - twenty and thirty year olds. We cannot afford to ignore this problem anymore and must take every step available to end the problem of plastics in our environment and bodies. This bill is honestly the least we could do and a minuscule drop in the bucket of what needs to be done to solve this urgent crisis.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: BARBARA CURTIS		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/15/2026 12:44 PM	
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I applaud the legislators who are winning to re-visit the issue of municipalities' ability to have local control. And, I affirm the limiting of plastic bag usage in whatever way possible. For the sake of wildlife, the beauty of our communities, and the longevity of one time use products in our landfills this is a good idea. Reusable containers are a viable alternative. I support this change.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: BONNIE HARPER		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/15/2026 1:49 PM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

I am in support of HB 3193, specifically repealing the provision of the law that the State must have the option to provide customers either a paper or plastic bag for any items purchased and no political subdivision can impose a band, fee, or tax for the use of either a paper or plastic bag. As a MO Stream Team volunteer, I regularly pick up trash and litter from my local waterways and city. Plastic bags are one of the top items of trash I find and have to pull out of brush and from clogging drains and polluting our rivers and streams. Imposing fees to incentivize consumers to bring their own bags has been shown to be very effective in reducing plastic bag use and trash in other states and something local communities should have the ability to decide for themselves and not have big state government interfere with. The current law strips local power away from local community decision making so I am in favor of repealing that provision and reducing the overreach of state government. My local government needs to be able to have tools and incentives it can use to help the plastic bag problem in our community. It affects tourism, natural resources and people's sense of pride.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: BRENDAN STUESSE		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/15/2026 12:49 PM	
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Taking this step seems necessary to the mission of the Department of Natural Resources. Phasing out single use plastics is a huge benefit to the conservation of our natural resources, for the DNR to do otherwise seems counterintuitive. Their standards should reflect their mission and set an example for other organizations to minimize environmental impact.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: CATHERINE KAISER		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/15/2026 4:41 PM	
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I would like to support the phase out of certain single-use plastics (polystyrene, single-use bottled water, and plastic bags) at Missouri State Park concessionaires and repeal Missouri's plastic bag pre-emption law, to once again allow municipalities to decide for themselves whether to restrict plastic bags in their local jurisdictions. Plastic is becoming more and more of a hazard in our environment, particularly that which never makes it to the landfill and instead ends up in our waterways to be consumed by fish and other sea life, often killing them or harming them in many ways. Please pass this bill onto the house for voting.
Thank you



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: CECILE BENTLEY		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/15/2026 2:35 PM
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Single use plastics represent a huge problem for waste disposal for cities and counties, and they are hazardous to our wildlife as well as being unsightly when they get snagged on trees and collect in streams and rivers. Stores like Aldi have already suspended their use and it is easy for consumers to get in the habit of using re-usable carriers.

I strongly support this bill to give our cities the ability to respond to their residents with more responsible policies.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: CLAIRE MEYERS		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/15/2026 12:47 PM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

I fully support this bill. It would not only help wildlife that is damaged by eating plastic, it would remove a large amount of the unsightly trash that requires staff to clean up to maintain attractive parks- thus also saving state funds in the long run.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: CLARA LEE PARKS, D.O.		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/16/2026 9:44 AM	
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I support banning single use plastics as much as possible. They are estimated to be 40% of the plastic produced and are clogging our waterways, filling our landfills, contributing to air pollution when burned as waste. They introduce untold amounts of contaminants into our environment and our very bodies. This bill is a small start at decreasing these dangers to health and the costs to our park system for collection and removal of waste that is difficult to dispose of. Recycling is a hoax with only about 5% of "recyclable" plastic recycled, and will never be a viable option. Stopping the use of this stuff is the way to make a difference.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: CLYDE BENTLEY		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/15/2026 5:55 PM	
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No two cities face exactly the same waste disposal and environmental problems. Our cities need the ability to address those problems in the way that works best for theirs citizens. HB 3193 puts the solution to local problems where it belongs — at the city council level. Please support HB 3193.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: COLLEEN TEPEN		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/15/2026 4:43 PM
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Please support local freedoms to decide whether they want more plastic in their bodies and ecosystems.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: CONNIE CAMPBELL		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/15/2026 4:12 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I support HB 3193 for options to reduce single-use plastics. Missouri has one the most effective departments of conservation in the nation, and our government should support state goals for water cleanliness and health of fish and wildlife. Microplastics from single-use plastics are mounting in animals and human beings alike. Let's stop worthless plastic options that damage soil, health, wildlife, and long-term human development.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: CONNIE TAO		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 4/15/2026 1:53 PM
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WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: DANA RIPPER		PHONE NUMBER: 660-815-5073	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: MISSOURI RIVER BIRD OBSERVATORY		TITLE: DIRECTOR	
ADDRESS: 406 MAIN STREET			
CITY: ARROW ROCK		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65320
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 4/16/2026 12:00 AM	
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: DANIEL JAY		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/15/2026 9:16 PM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

Plastics are growing rapidly into a major public health crisis. They are clogging our oceans, our rivers and our veins. Single use plastics are the obvious first step in addressing this problem. Please support this important house bill.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: DANIEL PUGH		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 4/16/2026 8:23 AM
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: DAVID CARLETON		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 4/15/2026 3:25 PM
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Once created, they persist for hundreds of years, breaking down into microplastics that cause even more widespread harm. Anything we can do to slow their spread **MUST** be done.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: DEBORAH GAJ		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/15/2026 6:50 PM	
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There are enough pollutants and trash disposed of on public lands. This bill at least tries to address the problem and one large part of the problem is single use plastics. I also agree that individual municipalities should be able to enforce their own regulations regarding single use plastics.



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WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: DEBRA G KNOBLE		PHONE NUMBER: 314-704-0668	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: MOGREENFUTURE		TITLE: PRESIDENT	
ADDRESS: 24 LOST VALLEY COURT			
CITY: SAINT PETERS		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63376
EMAIL: dknoble@mogreenfuture.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/15/2026 12:34 PM	

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I strongly support a repeal of Missouri's plastic bag pre-emption law to let municipalities decide for themselves whether to restrict plastic bags. Plastic pollution is a growing problem detrimental to the environment, nature and our health. With plastic production predicted to grow and no effective means to recycle or dispose of plastics responsibly we need to act now. Phase-out of single-use plastics in Missouri State Parks concessionaire operations would be a good first step to encourage further reduction efforts. We need to have more attention drawn to the negative impact of single use plastics. Plastics are already found everywhere, waterways, food, nature and even our bodies so passing this bill is a step in the right direction for finding solutions to the growing plastic pollution problem!



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: DEE DOKKEN		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 4/15/2026 4:19 PM
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Eliminating single use plastic in state parks will decrease pollution and littering. It will also send a message to park users about the importance of decreasing plastic pollution. Cities also need to be able to limit plastic use, especially when supported by their citizens



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: DELANEY DEMRO		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/15/2026 5:30 PM	
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Hello members of the Conservation & Natural Resources committee,

I am writing in support of HB 3193. I believe it is critical to protect the State of Missouri's natural resources and beautiful state parks, and phasing out the use of single-use plastics in our parks is an easy and impactful way to do so. We have seen other states and municipalities successfully replace single-use plastics with compostable and reusable alternatives, resulting in a significant decrease of litter in our parks and waste being generated from them. Similarly, by allowing municipalities to determine if they want to restrict the use of plastic retail bags would also be a significant win for conservation. Plastic bags are typically only used for a few minutes but take 100s of years to break down. Similarly plastic retail bags are one of the most commonly littered items and when improperly recycled, they cause costly damage our our recycling infrastructure. Overall, passing this bill would be a huge conservation win for the state of Missouri which is why I support this bill.

Thank you,
Delaney



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: DENNIS F BOLDREY		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/15/2026 1:49 PM
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I am in support HB3193 less plastic is good for everyone



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: DIANE PRIGMORE		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/15/2026 11:09 AM	

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We have an opportunity to care for our environment. This is a small, but significant step in making improvement!



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 3193		DATE: 4/16/2026	
COMMITTEE: Conservation and Natural Resources			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: ETHAN DUKE		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 4/16/2026 12:00 AM	
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MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 3193		DATE: 4/16/2026
COMMITTEE: Conservation and Natural Resources		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: EVAN BANKER		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/15/2026 2:38 PM
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This will be crucial to protecting our Earth. It is only responsible to regulate single use plastic.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: Conservation and Natural Resources			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: FRANCINE M. E. ARMSTRONG		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/15/2026 2:24 PM	
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It is frightfully counterproductive and counterintuitive to have concessionaires in our great MO State Parks using containers that are so detrimental to humans and wildlife in our environment. There is already way too much detritus on our land and in our streams from single-use plastic and polystyrene and plastic bags. It should certainly not be streaming from vendors inside our state parks. And patently our local municipalities must have the right returned to them to decide whether to restrict plastic bags in their jurisdictions.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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BILL NUMBER: HB 3193		DATE: 4/16/2026
COMMITTEE: Conservation and Natural Resources		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: FRANK DONALD ECKELMANN		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/15/2026 1:58 PM

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Please repeal Missouri's plastic bag pre-emption law, which would allow municipalities to decide for themselves whether to restrict plastic bags. We don't all agree on how to handle this matter, so at least allow us to address it at the local level.

I also support the phase-out of single-use plastics in Missouri State Parks concessionaire operations. There are better alternatives readily available.

Thanks for your attention to this matter.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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BILL NUMBER: HB 3193		DATE: 4/16/2026
COMMITTEE: Conservation and Natural Resources		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: JACLYN JEZIK		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/15/2026 9:58 PM
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I am highly supportive of HB3193, letting residents decide on the future of plastic bags in their communities. As a volunteer who helps clean up our streams, I can not tell you how many bags we pull out of our waterways. This pollution not only affects wildlife and obstructs Missouri's watersheds but eventually they break down, allowing our waters to fill with microplastics.

Plastic bags also wreak havoc our recycler's material sorting facilities, causing machinery to clog; shutting down the plants multiple times a day. This cycle puts employees at risk of injury and creates a high volume of lost working hours.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: JANE BEAL		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/15/2026 1:32 PM
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This is such an important step to let Missourians take better control of their environment. This makes a statement by the State to limit plastics in our parks, as well as give communities an opportunity to limit plastic bags. Please pass this bill.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: JANEE CHURCH		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/15/2026 10:38 AM
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It is time to move towards reducing and hopefully, in the future, eliminating single use plastic bags and other plastics. The science is clear that plastics are harmful to environmental and human health. We only need to look back a few generations to see that we can live without plastics woven so deeply into our lives. It just takes us all looking at the whole picture together to see the harm it's doing. I believe we Missourians can sacrifice a little convenience to move towards a healthier future generation.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: JANET MCILWEE		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/15/2026 4:36 PM
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I support HB 3193. Local governments within MO should HAVE the option to ban, tax, or impose fees on plastic bags or other single-use plastics. Plastics are the number 1 product prematurely filling our landfills, polluting our rivers, oceans, and lands.

Plastic litter negatively impacts tourism, hurts property values of business and homes. Who wants to swim, boat, or wade in waters with floating plastic trash, or trash on the beach? Drive down our highways, on our urban/suburban roads, and the problem of plastics is evident. Would you stop for the night in an area full of litter? Our tax dollars are wasted when it is needlessly spent to remove plastic litter, unclog storm drains.

Plastics are toxic to human, other animals, our soil, and our groundwater. More chemicals must be added to make water from our rivers and lakes potable, but all the dangerous chemicals from plastic are never fully removed.

Plastics are now found in every organ of our bodies, including lungs, brain, reproductive organs, even or bloodstreams. They have toxic properties and the damage has not yet been fully realized. The U.S. was once known as the leader of innovation, of modernization, but we sit back and refuse to deal with the problem of single-use plastic while other countries take action.

Missouri should NOT restrict the ability to decrease plastic use. Communities should have a say; citizens should have a say. As a volunteer who cleans up litter in our state on a regular basis, I can say with first-hand knowledge, "We have a problem Missouri, and single-use plastic is that problem."



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: JANET PRICE		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/15/2026 12:41 PM	

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Single use plastics are one of the greatest threats to our environment, worldwide. Missouri Dept of Natural Resources and Division of State Parks primary function is the protection of our natural resources. Single-use plastics are an eyesore (as litter), a waste problem (taking up so much space in landfills), a pollution issue (on land, in the sky, in our trees and in our waterways), a risk to animals (which die when they ingest and get tangled in plastics) and a human health issue (microplastics are found in newborn babies' blood, mother's milk, etc.). Microplastics are in the air we breathe, the water we drink and the food we eat. Plastics and microplastics have even created a new geologic "rock" layer in areas. State parks across Missouri can put a big dent in the waste stream by eliminating plastic straws, silverware, shopping bags, etc

It is our mandate as an agency and our duty to set a good example for other agencies and businesses across the country. Eliminating non-essential single-use plastics is a start.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: JEAN HARMON		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/16/2026 8:26 AM
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Please support HB3193 and repeal Missouri's plastic bag pre-emption law. Our world is drowning in plastic!



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: JENNY WENDT		PHONE NUMBER: 314-518-2518	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: MISSISSIPPI RIVER CITIES & TOWNS INITIATIVE (MRCTI); MIDAMERICA CLEAN FUTURE ALLIANCE (MACFA)		TITLE: CLEAN WATER DIRECTOR	
ADDRESS: 1044 LACOUER DR			
CITY: SAINT LOUIS		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63122
EMAIL: jenny@macfalliance.org	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/15/2026 4:24 PM	
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Testimony in Support of the Bill

Chair and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to speak today. My name is Jennifer Wendt, and I am writing on behalf of Mississippi Rivers & Towns Initiative (MRCTI) representing local governments across Missouri and along the Mississippi River who shoulder the day to day costs of managing plastic pollution. We strongly support this bill because it directly addresses a growing financial burden that our cities, counties, and taxpayers can no longer absorb alone.

Local governments are responsible for every stage of plastic waste management, from curbside collection to landfill disposal to recycling contamination, and the costs continue to rise. Single use plastics, in particular, are a major driver of these expenses. They clog recycling equipment, increase contamination rates that make materials unsellable, and increase costs of landfill operations. When recycling loads are rejected or landfills fill faster than planned, it is our residents who pay the price. Beyond solid waste systems, plastic pollution strains our public works departments and water utilities. City and county crews spend thousands of labor hours each year removing plastic debris from parks, roadways, storm drains, and public spaces. Our wastewater treatment plants must filter out microplastics and plastic fragments that enter the system, adding operational costs that ratepayers ultimately cover. Drinking water facilities face similar challenges, as plastics break down into particles that require additional treatment steps to ensure safe water for our communities.

Stormwater systems are especially vulnerable. Lightweight plastics like bags, bottles, foam containers are easily carried into creeks and rivers during rain events. Once in the watershed, they travel downstream into the Mississippi River, where millions of people rely on that water for drinking, agriculture, and industry. Local governments pay to clean up the pollution, but the impacts extend far beyond our borders, eventually reaching the Gulf of America and contributing to ocean plastic pollution.

This bill offers a practical, phased approach that reduces these costs at the source. By requiring State Park concessionaires to prioritize non-plastic and reuse/refill alternatives beginning in 2027, and by allowing political subdivisions to make their own decisions on the sale and distribution of single use plastic bags, bottled water, and polystyrene containers by 2028, the State is helping prevent the very materials that most frequently end up in our waste streams and waterways. These changes reduce cleanup costs, protect water infrastructure, and support the long term fiscal health of our communities. Importantly, the bill also repeals the current prohibition on local action. Cities and counties need the flexibility to adopt solutions that fit their waste systems, budgets, and community needs. Restoring local authority allows decision making at the local level us to reduce local cost burdens, improve

recycling outcomes, and protect our waterways in ways that are responsive and effective. Local governments are not asking the State to solve this problem, we are asking for the tools and policy framework that allow us to manage it responsibly and cost effectively. This bill does exactly that. It reduces the volume of plastic entering our systems, lowers taxpayer costs, and protects the natural resources that define Missouri, from our rivers to our State Parks. For these reasons, we respectfully urge your support.

Jennifer Wendt

Clean Water Director

Mississippi River Cities & Towns Initiative



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: JOHN F HICKEY		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/15/2026 3:52 PM
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Single use plastic products are putting the cost of disposal of that trash onto individuals as well as local governments. The 2015 ban passed by the MO Legislature prevents local governments from regulating these bags. The Legislature should trust the people to make this decision. I serve on the Sustainability Commission for the City of Webster Groves, and speak to many St. Louis County residents who want to ban single use plastic bags, but cannot do so to the 2015 ban enacted by the Legislature. Let the people decide!



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WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: KENDRA VARNS WALLIS		PHONE NUMBER: 816-210-3413	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: MISSOURI PARKS ASSOCIATION		TITLE: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR	
ADDRESS: P.O. BOX 8531			
CITY: KANSAS CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 64114
EMAIL: kendra.wallis@missouriparks.org	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/15/2026 1:50 PM	

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The Missouri Parks Association supports HB 3193, legislation that proposes to phase out the use of single-use plastic products in Missouri State Parks and Historic Sites.

This bill takes a thoughtful, phased approach to reducing plastic waste in some of Missouri’s most treasured natural, historic, and recreation areas. The bill proposes that, beginning January 1, 2027, the Division of State Parks will require new or renewing concession contracts to give procurement preference to suppliers offering non-plastic alternatives to single-use plastic products. In addition, by January 1, 2028, retail concessionaires operating within state parks will no longer be permitted to sell or distribute single-use plastic bags, single-use bottled water, or polystyrene beverage cups and food containers, with reasonable exceptions as outlined in the bill.

Reducing single-use plastics in state parks is a critical step toward protecting Missouri’s natural resources. Plastic waste poses a significant threat to these environments, diminishing the visitor experience and creating long-term ecological harm. By transitioning to more sustainable alternatives, HB 3193 helps ensure that Missouri’s parks remain clean, safe, and enjoyable for future generations.

Other states have already taken similar steps. As of January 1, 2023, Illinois implemented legislation requiring state agencies to transition to compostable or recyclable food ware in state parks and natural areas, demonstrating that such policies are both practical and effective in reducing waste and pollution in protected spaces.

These measures are vital to sustaining high-quality park operations, preserving public investments, and maintaining safe and welcoming experiences for millions of Missourians and visitors each year. On behalf of the nearly 2,500 members of the Missouri Parks Association and the more than 20 million annual visitors to Missouri state parks and historic sites, we respectfully urge your support of HB 3193.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: KIM ADAMS		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/16/2026 3:09 AM	
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I am in support of HB3193 and hope the committee votes in favor.



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TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: KIMBERLY MYERS		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/15/2026 3:43 PM
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As a member of a Steam Team who helps clean up trash from our waterways, I have seen the negative impact of single use plastics. The amount of single use plastics found during clean up events is overwhelming. When submerged in water and exposed to weather elements, these plastics break down into smaller and smaller pieces polluting our waterways, harming our natural world and negatively impacting our health. Anyone who has tried to remove a plastic bag partially buried in the mud is well familiar with how brittle they become and the difficulty of removing all the plastic. All these single use plastic items do not biodegrade, but instead break down into microplastics and leach persistent, mobile and toxic chemicals into our waterways and soil. What happens after disposal is only a small picture of the overall negative impacts plastics have on the environment, but it a good start to the overall conversation about our need to move away from this unsustainable, toxic and polluting products.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: KURT C KESSNER		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/15/2026 2:35 PM
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I believe it is in our best interest to systematically eliminate single use plastic in general and this is a good start.



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COMMITTEE: Conservation and Natural Resources			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: KYNA IMAN		PHONE NUMBER: 314-651-1185	
REPRESENTING: THE NATURE CONSERVANCY		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: P.O. BOX 1483			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65101
EMAIL: kynaiman@earthlink.net	ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 4/16/2026 3:37 PM	
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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: LINDA KRYGIEL		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/16/2026 10:53 AM
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I have been an advocate for helping to preserve the earth for many decades. I hope that you recognize the negative aspects of continuing our current habits of using plastic bags and single use plastics. Please vote yes for HB3193. Thank you.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: LINDSEY RUDER		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/15/2026 6:21 PM	
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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: LUCIA SAMUELS		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/15/2026 11:16 PM
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We have to start taking serious action to lessen the amount of plastic single use bottles that are out in our public spaces because unfortunately they don't get disposed of properly, whether into recycling containers or even in proper regular trash containers and that means they can be tossed or blown onto the ground where they can then get into our waterways or get cut up by mowers in our parks. It's time to encourage people even more to start bringing their own reusable beverage (especially water) containers out into public spaces. It's not a hard habit to establish.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: LUZ ROONEY		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 4/15/2026 3:22 PM
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I am in full support of HB 3193. Single-use plastics contain chemicals that have negative impacts our health by acting as endocrine disruptors which mimic hormones they are linked to increase risk of diabetes, obesity, cancer, and infertility



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: LYNNE ANDRE ZHENG		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/15/2026 8:50 PM	
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The Plastic Bag Petition
Lynne Andre Zheng

My name is Lynne, and I'm a sixth grader from Villa di Maria Montessori School, Kirkwood, MO.

Did you know that the world uses approximately five trillion plastic bags every year? That is five and twelve zeros. This is a huge and mind-blowing number. People mainly use not one, not two, but even three plastic bags to wrap around their purchases because plastic bags rip easily. They use all this plastic to simply carry their groceries from the store to their car. Sure, some people "reuse" their plastic bags for some other purposes, but in the end, plastic bags always end up in nature, polluting natural habitats, littering the side of the road, or end up in the landfill. These facts shocked me, and this is why I decided to do something about it.

So let me tell you how I first got interested in banning plastic bags. I was in third grade, and I had just come home from school. My mom and I were talking about climate action and specifically plastic bags. Then it hit me: what if I did something about this problem? What if I campaigned to ban plastic bags in my city?

I only came back to the idea in 5th grade. That's when I began to go around my school asking for signatures. I collected signatures from parents, teachers and students. I knew that I didn't have enough signatures, but I wanted to show my city that I cared. After I sent my letter and petition to the city council of Kirkwood, Liz Gibbon, the Mayor responded and invited me to come to the Kirkwood City Hall. I gave a speech to the council about my problem and why I wanted them to ban plastic bags. Unfortunately, the city council told me that the law in Missouri said that no one can force vendors to not use plastic bags. So the city Mayor suggested contacting the Missouri state senators. So this is my next step.

Many people envision the increasing use of paper bags as a solution, but the real answer lies in reusable fabric bags. Even though paper bags can be recycled, trees are still being cut down and formed into paper bags. We need those trees for other things. Not only do fabric bags last a lifetime if cared for properly, but some also come with an insulating layer that keeps both hot and cold items at their proper temperature throughout the day and/or car ride home. You just need to keep them in your trunk and bring them out when the time comes to go grocery shopping. An even better thing to do would be to use fabric bags for shopping for anything, not just for groceries. Now you may think, "but this isn't going to change the Earth's climate and trash problems" but think about this. Imagine yourself as a hummingbird over a wildfire ravaging the land. Now imagine that you throw down

a drop of water on to the wildfire. A drop isn't going to end it, but thousands of millions of droplets can. And that is true with our plastic bag problem. If we work together and spread the word, a storm will appear and end this wildfire. And just you, doing your very best, will help. Together we can put out this fire.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 3193		DATE: 4/16/2026	
COMMITTEE: Conservation and Natural Resources			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: MARGE LUMPE		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/15/2026 4:08 PM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

Plastics are now being found in every inch of our environment, including in cells in our brains. Actions must be taken to reduce our exposure before it kills us all and our children.
Styrofoam does not degrade although some new forms will.
Marine life is choking on our plastics.
We can change this if we just address it as though it is important. Because it is. Thank you for your attention.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 3193		DATE: 4/16/2026	
COMMITTEE: Conservation and Natural Resources			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: MARIE SEVIGNY-PENROD		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/15/2026 9:54 PM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

I think this bill is very important to reduce plastic pollution in Missouri.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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COMMITTEE: Conservation and Natural Resources		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: MARK ZURBRICK		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/15/2026 8:16 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

Please vote YES on HB3193. Let local citizens who know what is best for their local communities decide for themselves what actions need to be taken to address problem plastics that are damaging our environment and our health.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 3193		DATE: 4/16/2026
COMMITTEE: Conservation and Natural Resources		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: MARY CRECELIUS		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/15/2026 3:17 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

This bill specifies that, beginning January 1, 2027, the Division of State Parks must require concession contracts to give procurement preference to suppliers who provide nonplastic alternatives in place of single-use plastic products. Beginning January 1, 2028, no retail concessionaire operating within a State Park can sell or distribute single-use plastic bags, single-use bottled water, or polystyrene beverage cups or food containers. Exceptions to this requirement are outlined in the bill

I am in favor of this bill to reduce plastic trash and the environmental impact plastics can have on wildlife. It is a way to keep Missouri beautiful



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: Conservation and Natural Resources			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: MARY CULLER		PHONE NUMBER: 573-586-0747	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: MISSOURI STREAM TEAM WATERSHED COALITION		TITLE: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR	
ADDRESS: PO BOX 483			
CITY: SHELBINA		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63468
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 4/16/2026 12:00 AM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 3193		DATE: 4/16/2026	
COMMITTEE: Conservation and Natural Resources			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: MAURICE MUIA		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 4/15/2026 9:50 PM	

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

Good morning Honorable House Speaker Jon Patterson and Representatives of the Missouri General Assembly. I humbly request your time to tell you why I support HB 3193 sponsored by Representative Wellenkamp – Single Use Plastic Products. The person testifying in front of you today has lived in Missouri since 2010. Since relocating to Missouri to complete my graduate studies at Saint Louis University, my wife Alexandra and I have raised three beautiful Missouri children in Richmond Heights and Springfield, Missouri.

Not long before I moved to Missouri, I resided in the U.S. Virgin Islands and worked for the Virgin Islands Energy Office. I was raised in the U.S. Virgin Islands, which is a small tight knit community, where everyone knows each other and conservation is a value embedded in the fabric of the community. There were times growing up where plastic bags on our beautiful white sand beaches would litter the landscape. This was before the time of plastic bag reduction programs, reuse, plastic alternatives, and conservation practices that protected our natural environment in a modern world. Today, the Virgin Islands Territorial Parks & Protected Areas, the Virgin Islands National Park, and other jurisdictions are in a much better place today for one important reason. These park systems have benefited greatly from the reduction of single use plastics, especially polystyrene.

The State of Missouri and the U.S. Virgin Islands have many things in common, small communities that work together, and conservation which protects the environment and the jobs that it provides to resident throughout the state. Tourism in Missouri provides 42 million visitors with clean and pristine parks and attractions from Mark Twain House and Museum in Hannibal to Branson and everywhere in between. Altogether, \$21M of economic activity is derived from tourism in the State of Missouri. Central to tourism in Missouri is our vast 160,000 plus state park system. We rank in the top – four nationally with over half of all visitors to the state visiting a state park. Therefore, the opportunity is large with HB 3193. I support Representative Wellenkamp and his foresight to propose a bill that will positively impact the state park system, conservation, and your objective to expand economic activity in our tourism sector.

Thank you for your time and I am available to take any questions that you may have for me at this time.

Regards,

Maurice K. Muia



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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COMMITTEE: Conservation and Natural Resources			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: MAX Q ARENS		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 4/15/2026 2:59 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

I am strongly in support of HB 3193 to allow each municipality to decide for themselves what to do about plastic bags. Personally I believe plastic bags should be outlawed statewide. Micro- and nano-plastics in the environment are becoming more prevalent and have been shown to be associated with several health disorders. We should act NOW to begin to limit plastics in the environment so as to preclude further accumulation in our ecosphere and in our bodies. Please pass this bill to help us all be healthier.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: MICA A WOOD		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/15/2026 2:16 PM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: Conservation and Natural Resources		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: MICHAEL J KNOBLE		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/15/2026 5:53 PM
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Municipalities should be able to reflect the will of the local residents and ban the use of single use plastics.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: Conservation and Natural Resources		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: MICHELLE SINGER		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/16/2026 6:30 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I urge our legislators to vote for this bill. Single use plastics are a detriment to our environment & microplastics are a serious health hazard.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: Conservation and Natural Resources		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: PAMELA L BARNABEE		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/15/2026 1:09 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

HB 3193 would allow municipalities to decide for themselves if they want to restrict the use of plastic bags; I believe in empowering local government to make this kind of decision. I also support phasing out single-use plastics in Missouri State Park concessionaires. Only a very small proportion of these plastics are recycled. Most end up as litter or in landfill. Many people don't give any thought to their plastic usage; for Missouri State Parks to take this approach would be a game changer.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: Conservation and Natural Resources			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: PAULA KRUM		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/15/2026 2:59 PM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

I'm against single use plastics.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: Conservation and Natural Resources		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: RUTH ELLEN MOCCIA		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/15/2026 3:39 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

Plastic is killing our planet. It is killing us along with it. It hangs from the trees, floats in the water, blows in the streets, chokes living things, and poisons our bodies. How can you tolerate this any further?



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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BILL NUMBER: HB 3193		DATE: 4/16/2026	
COMMITTEE: Conservation and Natural Resources			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: SANDY BRIESACHER		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/15/2026 12:09 PM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

I am in support of HB 3193 limiting the use of single use plastics.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: Conservation and Natural Resources			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: STEVE OLSON		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/15/2026 10:03 PM	

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

Conservation and Natural Resource Committee Members,
 Thank you for taking comments on the issue of single use plastics in Missouri's state parks and historic sites.

Single use plastic containers carry a high cost to our society. Contamination of the landscape may be the most obvious and easily addressed issue. Another issue of great importance is the breakdown and release of toxic components that petroleum based containers shed into soil, water, air, and ultimately living organisms. Toxicity testing clearly shows a relatively small selection of these materials to be detrimental to life on earth. It is known that many chemicals in the broad array of plastic types have not been fully tested for their toxicity to animals and plants. This is reason enough to limit single use plastic use. The process of removing single use plastics from our waste stream, beyond the negative effects these materials have on humans, is their effect on non-human life forms that share the soil, water, and air with us. These effects are well documented. Ultimately this adds up to serious ecosystem threats, which leads inevitably to a reduced quality of life. Short term economic advantage is not a worthy argument to continue the use of these materials in retail trade. The small step forward in removing the use of single use plastics in Missouri's state parks and historic sites would be a good start and could open the door to the reversal of this tragic and widespread problem on a broader scale. Likely the visitors to these gems of Missouri would be supportive of this change.

Steve Olson
 Hartsburg, MO



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 3193		DATE: 4/16/2026	
COMMITTEE: Conservation and Natural Resources			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: SUE M NAUERT		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/16/2026 11:18 AM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

We need to get a handle on single use plastic, we are drowning in it !!!



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: Conservation and Natural Resources			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: SUSAN LAMMERT		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/15/2026 4:28 PM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

We are all ingesting Plastic particles - way to much for good health. Furthermore, plastic bags and bottles, aside from being unattractive when seen by the side of the road and in our beautiful streams, can clog intake pipes.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: Conservation and Natural Resources		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: SUZY LATARE		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/15/2026 8:35 PM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

I believe it's time to let local municipalities decide for themselves if they wish to eliminate single use plastic bags from their communities.

Those who don't wish to won't have to, but those who do will have another tool in their toolbox to reduce landfill space, prevent water contamination, and reduce microplastics in their soil.

Please pass this important bill out of committee. Thank you.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: Conservation and Natural Resources			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: TAYLOR MERLE		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 4/15/2026 3:52 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 3193		DATE: 4/16/2026
COMMITTEE: Conservation and Natural Resources		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: TIMOTHY SMITH		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/15/2026 1:07 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I strongly support this bill. It is imperative that we do all we can to reduce plastic in our waste stream. Communities should have discretion and authority over bans of plastic bags. Thank you for considering this bill.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: Conservation and Natural Resources			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: TYLER SCHWARTZE		PHONE NUMBER: 573-634-2322	
REPRESENTING: CONSERVATION FEDERATION OF MISSOURI		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: 728 WEST MAIN STREET			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65101
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 4/16/2026 12:00 AM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 3193		DATE: 4/16/2026	
COMMITTEE: Conservation and Natural Resources			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: VIRGINIA (GINNY) WALLACE		PHONE NUMBER: 573-418-0604	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: CONSERVATION FEDERATION OF MISSOURI		TITLE: PRESIDENT	
ADDRESS: 9814 PLEASANT HILL ROAD			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65109
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 4/16/2026 12:00 AM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 3193		DATE: 4/16/2026	
COMMITTEE: Conservation and Natural Resources			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: WILLIAM JIHAN		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 4/15/2026 2:44 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

Single use plastics are a leading contributor to global pollution and environmental degradation. Missouri is a national leader in science-based, non-political natural resource management. I support bills that recognize this history.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 3193		DATE: 4/16/2026	
COMMITTEE: Conservation and Natural Resources			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: BILL GAMBLE		PHONE NUMBER: 573-634-4876	
REPRESENTING: MISSOURI BEVERAGE ASSOCIATION		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: PO BOX 1865			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65102
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 4/16/2026 12:00 AM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: DONNA B LEBLANC		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/15/2026 3:01 PM	

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

Macro plastic are visible in our soil now. Our trash is filled with plastic material. Stop single use plastic bags and drink bottles for the future of our food growth. Thank you for supporting this Missouri bill.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: JAMES P TONER		PHONE NUMBER: 703-647-4616	
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Missouri Legislature
 House Conservation and Natural Resources Committee
 Hearing on House Bill 3193
 April 16, 2026

Written Testimony

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 International Bottled Water Association

Chair Farnan and members of the House Conservation and Natural Resources Committee, thank you for this opportunity to submit written testimony in opposition to House Bill 3193, which would prohibit state park concessionaires from selling and distributing “single-use” bottled water in plastic.

The International Bottled Water Association (IBWA) is the leading trade association representing the bottled water industry in the United States. Founded in 1958, IBWA members support more than 617,000 jobs that generate \$42.5 billion in wages and \$163 billion in overall U.S. economic impact. IBWA’s membership consists of bottlers, distributors, and suppliers across the U.S. and around the world working to deliver the #1 packaged beverage to consumers everywhere.

IBWA strongly opposes the bill. This legislation is not in the public interest, and IBWA urges the Committee not to support it. IBWA opposes this legislation for the following reasons:

- Restricting access to bottled water in any way would hinder individuals searching for healthy hydration while frequenting Missouri state parks.
- Polyethylene terephthalate (PET) plastic bottled water containers have the lowest environmental footprint of any packaged beverage containers, including those made with glass, aluminum, or paperboard cartons.
- PET plastic bottled water containers are not “single-use” products. They are 100% recyclable, have the highest recycling rates among consumer-packaged goods, and can be used over and over again to make new products.
- It would negatively impact existing recycling streams in the state, as PET plastic is one of the most sought-after materials in resource recovery markets.

- Switching from PET plastic to other materials, especially aluminum, would add a significant cost increase to bottled water.

PET Plastic Is the Most Environmentally Friendly Packaging

Attempts to eliminate the availability of PET plastic bottles of water would remove the most environmentally friendly beverage packaging option. PET plastic bottled water containers have the smallest environmental impact compared to all other drink packaging types.

Trayak LLC, a sustainability consulting firm, conducted a Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) for IBWA that measured several variables to determine the overall environmental impact of specific packaging types, including PET water bottles, PET soda bottles, glass bottles, aluminum canned water, and paperboard beverage cartons. The assessment shows that PET water bottles have a lower environmental impact than all other containers across each of the considered variables.

In addition, McKinsey & Company, a well-respected consulting firm, issued a report that supports the Trayak assessment's findings. That report shows that "PET bottles have the lowest greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions because of their lightweight properties and the low amount of energy required to produce them. By contrast, aluminum cans have two times the emissions of PET bottles, and emissions from glass bottles are three times higher." It is important to note that this report compares PET soda bottles, rather than PET water bottles, with other packaging types. If McKinsey & Company had included PET water bottles in this report, it is highly likely that the report would have found an even greater disparity between GHG emissions when compared with aluminum cans and glass bottles.

As shown in the Trayak assessment and supported by findings in the McKinsey & Company report, GHG emissions are less for PET plastic packaged bottled water than other packaged beverages. As a comparison, if the industry were to switch from bottling water in 16.9-ounce PET plastic containers to the equivalent size aluminum cans, paperboard cartons, or glass bottles, the increased GHG emissions would equate to:

- more than 1.9 million more cars on the road annually for aluminum cans;
- over 422,000 more cars on the road annually for cartons; or
- nearly 6 million more cars for glass bottles.

Producing bottled water in PET plastic also consumes less energy. The amount of energy saved by producing bottled water in PET plastic bottles compared to other packaging is equivalent to:

- powering over 844,000 more homes each year for aluminum cans;
- powering over 253,000 more homes each year for cartons; or
- powering 7.6 million more homes each year for glass bottles.

The American Chemistry Council (ACC) report, conducted by Franklin Associates, examined the overall impact of plastics on the environment, compared to other materials. The study looked at energy demand, water consumption, solid waste, global warming potential, eutrophication potential, smog formation potential, and ozone depletion potential. Yet again, this report concluded that, when comparing materials throughout the entire life cycle of a package, plastics leave a much smaller environmental footprint than alternatives, such as glass, aluminum cans, and paperboard cartons.

The industry recognizes that there is room for improvement and is always looking for ways to strengthen existing recycling programs, expand recycling efforts, and reduce the use of virgin plastic. But the data are clear that PET packaging is best for single-serving sized bottled water. Preventing the purchase of bottled water in plastic packaging and instead purchasing water in packaging alternatives like aluminum, glass, or cartons would increase GHG emissions, result in increased use of resources, and drive up the cost for consumers.

Replacing PET Drives Up Costs to Consumers

Lastly, a recent study commissioned by IBWA from the Berkeley Research Group reveals, "substituting aluminum cans for single-serve plastic containers will substantially increase the amount spent by individual consumers in the US on bottled water." The study examines how consumers respond to price increases, and economic concept known as "elasticity of demand." The researchers studied data from around the United States including Washington, Oregon, Idaho and several cities in California to figure out how sensitive consumers are to these price changes. The researchers concluded that switching from plastic to aluminum packaging would significantly drive-up costs for consumers. In the

short term, bottled water prices would jump 405%, eventually settling to a 174% increase over time. That translates to an immediate 7% increase in grocery bills, dropping to around 3% in the long run.

PET Plastic Bottled Water Containers Are Not Single-Use Products

Calling plastic bottled water containers “single-use” is a misnomer because they are 100% recyclable. True single-use plastics are items that cannot be recycled, such as straws; cutlery; plates; non-recyclable food packaging (e.g., film, heat-sealed and multi-layered laminate bags); and certain non-PET, non-HDPE, and non-PC containers. These products are not imprinted with a recycling symbol and do not have a second life after disposal.

The various bottled water containers are different. Individual-sized bottles and larger containers, including 1-, 2.5-, 3-, and 5-gallon products, are fully recyclable. When properly recycled, the plastic can be used repeatedly to make new beverage bottles and other products.

Bottled Water in Plastic Containers Uses Less Water Than Other Packaging Types

In addition, the Trayak report shows that it takes much less water to produce PET bottled water containers than all other packaging types, including PET soda bottles. Choosing water packaged in PET plastic produced specifically for bottled water instead of the other packaging types saves:

- almost 245 billion gallons of water each year if packaged in aluminum containers, or the equivalent of over 38 million people showering every day for an entire year;
- over 768 billion gallons of water annually if packaged in cartons, or the equivalent of over 122 million people showering every day for a year;
- over 2 trillion gallons of water annually if packaged in glass bottles, or the equivalent of over 326 million people showering every day for a year; and
- almost 667 billion gallons of water annually if packaged in PET soda bottles, or the equivalent of over 105 million people showering every day for a year.

Using packaging other than PET plastic for bottled water will result in the increased use of water. To support sustainable sourcing, the bottled water industry uses plastic packaging to ensure that the least amount of water is used to produce our industry’s products.

Bottled Water’s Role in Healthy Hydration

For those who want to eliminate or moderate calories, sugar, caffeine, artificial flavors or colors, and other ingredients from their diet or simply wish to opt for a convenient beverage with refreshing taste, reliable quality, and zero calories choosing water is the right choice – no matter what the delivery method. Bottled water is a smart decision and a healthy choice when it comes to beverage options. Efforts to eliminate or reduce access to bottled water such as this legislation only hinder attempts to encourage people to choose healthier drink options.

In fact, since 1998, approximately 73% of the growth in bottled water consumption has come from people switching from carbonated soft drinks, juices, and milk to bottled water. One of the simplest changes a person can make is to switch to drinking water instead of other beverages that are heavy with sugar and calories. According to the Institute of Medicine and the American Journal of Preventative Medicine, two-thirds of American adults are overweight with one-third of those individuals being obese, and over the last 30 years, children’s obesity rates have climbed from 5% to 17%. Drinking zero-calorie beverages, such as water, instead of sugary drinks is regularly cited as a key component of a more healthful lifestyle, and promoting greater consumption of water from all sources, including from bottled water, can only benefit those efforts.

In today’s on-the-go society, most of what we drink comes in a package. Attacks on bottled water only help to promote less healthy options among other packaged beverages, like juices and soda, which have more packaging, more ingredients, and greater environmental impacts than bottled water. Research shows that if bottled water isn’t available, 72% of people will choose soda or another sugared drink – not tap water. And, of the bottled water drinkers who have a packaging preference, 75% prefer bottled water packaged in plastic bottles (16% said glass, 6% said metal cans, and 3% said paper cartons or boxes).

Bottled Water Is an Economic Force in Missouri

Companies in Missouri that manufacture, distribute, and sell bottled water employ as many as 4,393 people in the state and generate an additional 6,851 jobs in supplier and ancillary industries. These include jobs in companies supplying goods and services to manufacturers, distributors, and retailers, as well as those that depend on sales to workers in the bottled water industry. The jobs currently generated by the bottled water industry in Missouri are good jobs, paying an average of \$63,600 in wages and benefits.

Not only does the manufacture and sale of bottled water create good jobs in Missouri, but the industry also contributes to the economy as a whole. In fact, the bottled water industry is responsible for as much as \$2.71 billion in total economic activity in the state. The bottled water industry generates sizeable tax revenues in the state. In Missouri, the industry and its employees pay over \$87.61 million in business taxes, while sales drive another \$38.54 million in consumption taxes.

Thank you for your consideration of IBWA's opposition to HB 3193, and please do not hesitate to contact IBWA with any concerns or questions.

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While I agree in principle with the idea, there are no viable alternatives for some non-soda pop soft drinks--especially zero calorie flavored sparkling water. This sounds very much like micromanaging park stores which the state relies on for a state park stream of revenue. Other alternatives, such as returnable plastic bottle collection, or a park initiated anti-littler effort might work much better than simply banning single use water bottles.



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HB 3193 repeals Missouri’s existing statewide uniformity on plastic bag policy and replaces it with a targeted prohibition within state park concession operations.

That shift matters.

It moves Missouri from a consistent, statewide framework to a fragmented, site-specific regulatory model imposed through state contracts.

This bill does not eliminate single-use plastics.

It restricts them only within state parks, placing the burden on a narrow group of concessionaires—many of them small businesses operating under contract—while leaving broader commercial use unchanged.

In effect, it concentrates cost and compliance obligations on a limited population rather than addressing the issue uniformly.

The fiscal note states there is “no impact” to the state.

However, the same analysis acknowledges that: concessionaires will incur increased costs and those costs may affect operations and pricing.

This is not the absence of impact.

It is the relocation of impact—from the state to small vendors.

The bill also relies on discretionary exceptions, including products for which “no comparable alternative exists,” as determined by the division.

This grants administrative authority to define: what qualifies as compliant and when compliance is required without clear statutory standards.

That creates inconsistency risk across contracts and enforcement.

Additionally, the procurement “preference” requirement is undefined.

There is:

**no measurable threshold
no cost balancing standard
and no clear compliance metric**

This introduces uncertainty for vendors attempting to comply and invites uneven application.

HB 3193 is not a comprehensive environmental policy.

It is a limited restriction applied to a specific setting, with:

**uneven cost distribution
undefined administrative discretion
and no measurable statewide impact**

If the policy objective is to reduce single-use plastics, that objective should be addressed through clear, consistent, and statewide standards.

Targeting only state park concessionaires raises a more basic question:

If this is sound policy, why is it limited to a small group of contract-bound vendors instead of applied uniformly?

For these reasons, I respectfully urge a “Do Not Pass.”