

HR 5845

Break Free From Plastic Pollution Act of 2020

Congress: 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Environmental Protection

Introduced: Feb 11, 2020

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment. (Feb 12, 2020)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/5845>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Lowenthal, Alan S. [D-CA-47]

Party: Democratic • **State:** CA • **Chamber:** House

Cosponsors (94 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Del. Norton, Eleanor Holmes [D-DC-At Large]	D · DC		Feb 11, 2020
Rep. Barragan, Nanette Diaz [D-CA-44]	D · CA		Feb 11, 2020
Rep. Case, Ed [D-HI-1]	D · HI		Feb 11, 2020
Rep. Clark, Katherine M. [D-MA-5]	D · MA		Feb 11, 2020
Rep. Cohen, Steve [D-TN-9]	D · TN		Feb 11, 2020
Rep. Connolly, Gerald E. [D-VA-11]	D · VA		Feb 11, 2020
Rep. Engel, Eliot L. [D-NY-16]	D · NY		Feb 11, 2020
Rep. Haaland, Debra A. [D-NM-1]	D · NM		Feb 11, 2020
Rep. Hastings, Alcee L. [D-FL-20]	D · FL		Feb 11, 2020
Rep. Huffman, Jared [D-CA-2]	D · CA		Feb 11, 2020
Rep. Jayapal, Pramila [D-WA-7]	D · WA		Feb 11, 2020
Rep. Khanna, Ro [D-CA-17]	D · CA		Feb 11, 2020
Rep. Lee, Barbara [D-CA-13]	D · CA		Feb 11, 2020
Rep. Levin, Mike [D-CA-49]	D · CA		Feb 11, 2020
Rep. Lieu, Ted [D-CA-33]	D · CA		Feb 11, 2020
Rep. McCollum, Betty [D-MN-4]	D · MN		Feb 11, 2020
Rep. Moulton, Seth [D-MA-6]	D · MA		Feb 11, 2020
Rep. Panetta, Jimmy [D-CA-20]	D · CA		Feb 11, 2020
Rep. Pingree, Chellie [D-ME-1]	D · ME		Feb 11, 2020
Rep. Quigley, Mike [D-IL-5]	D · IL		Feb 11, 2020
Rep. Raskin, Jamie [D-MD-8]	D · MD		Feb 11, 2020
Rep. Rouda, Harley [D-CA-48]	D · CA		Feb 11, 2020
Rep. Sarbanes, John P. [D-MD-3]	D · MD		Feb 11, 2020
Rep. Schakowsky, Janice D. [D-IL-9]	D · IL		Feb 11, 2020
Rep. Suozzi, Thomas R. [D-NY-3]	D · NY		Feb 11, 2020
Rep. Tlaib, Rashida [D-MI-13]	D · MI		Feb 11, 2020
Rep. Velazquez, Nydia M. [D-NY-7]	D · NY		Feb 11, 2020
Rep. Waters, Maxine [D-CA-43]	D · CA		Feb 11, 2020
Rep. Welch, Peter [D-VT-At Large]	D · VT		Feb 11, 2020
Rep. Carbajal, Salud O. [D-CA-24]	D · CA		Feb 12, 2020
Rep. Escobar, Veronica [D-TX-16]	D · TX		Feb 12, 2020
Rep. Lofgren, Zoe [D-CA-19]	D · CA		Feb 12, 2020
Rep. Meng, Grace [D-NY-6]	D · NY		Feb 12, 2020
Rep. Grijalva, Raúl M. [D-AZ-3]	D · AZ		Feb 13, 2020
Rep. Bonamici, Suzanne [D-OR-1]	D · OR		Feb 21, 2020
Rep. Clarke, Yvette D. [D-NY-9]	D · NY		Feb 21, 2020
Rep. Doggett, Lloyd [D-TX-35]	D · TX		Feb 21, 2020
Rep. Espaillat, Adriano [D-NY-13]	D · NY		Feb 21, 2020
Rep. Pressley, Ayanna [D-MA-7]	D · MA		Feb 21, 2020
Rep. Schrier, Kim [D-WA-8]	D · WA		Feb 21, 2020
Rep. Thompson, Mike [D-CA-5]	D · CA		Feb 21, 2020

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Beatty, Joyce [D-OH-3]	D · OH		Feb 25, 2020
Rep. Lynch, Stephen F. [D-MA-8]	D · MA		Feb 25, 2020
Rep. Neguse, Joe [D-CO-2]	D · CO		Feb 25, 2020
Rep. Thompson, Bennie G. [D-MS-2]	D · MS		Feb 25, 2020
Rep. Watson Coleman, Bonnie [D-NJ-12]	D · NJ		Feb 25, 2020
Rep. Wilson, Frederica S. [D-FL-24]	D · FL		Feb 25, 2020
Rep. Eshoo, Anna G. [D-CA-18]	D · CA		Feb 26, 2020
Rep. Porter, Katie [D-CA-45]	D · CA		Feb 26, 2020
Rep. DeSaulnier, Mark [D-CA-11]	D · CA		Feb 27, 2020
Rep. Blumenauer, Earl [D-OR-3]	D · OR		Feb 28, 2020
Rep. Davis, Susan A. [D-CA-53]	D · CA		Mar 2, 2020
Rep. Larsen, Rick [D-WA-2]	D · WA		Mar 2, 2020
Rep. Levin, Andy [D-MI-9]	D · MI		Mar 2, 2020
Rep. Omar, Ilhan [D-MN-5]	D · MN		Mar 2, 2020
Rep. Trone, David J. [D-MD-6]	D · MD		Mar 2, 2020
Rep. Blunt Rochester, Lisa [D-DE-At Large]	D · DE		Mar 4, 2020
Rep. Delgado, Antonio [D-NY-19]	D · NY		Mar 4, 2020
Rep. DelBene, Suzan K. [D-WA-1]	D · WA		Mar 5, 2020
Rep. Kildee, Daniel T. [D-MI-5]	D · MI		Mar 5, 2020
Rep. DeFazio, Peter A. [D-OR-4]	D · OR		Mar 11, 2020
Rep. Kennedy, Joseph P., III [D-MA-4]	D · MA		Mar 11, 2020
Rep. Kilmer, Derek [D-WA-6]	D · WA		Mar 11, 2020
Rep. Dean, Madeleine [D-PA-4]	D · PA		Mar 12, 2020
Rep. Garcia, Jesus G. "Chuy" [D-IL-4]	D · IL		Mar 13, 2020
Rep. Cleaver, Emanuel [D-MO-5]	D · MO		Apr 17, 2020
Rep. Napolitano, Grace F. [D-CA-32]	D · CA		Apr 17, 2020
Rep. Vargas, Juan [D-CA-51]	D · CA		May 22, 2020
Rep. Chu, Judy [D-CA-27]	D · CA		Jun 11, 2020
Rep. Jackson Lee, Sheila [D-TX-18]	D · TX		Jun 22, 2020
Rep. Maloney, Sean Patrick [D-NY-18]	D · NY		Jul 13, 2020
Rep. Smith, Adam [D-WA-9]	D · WA		Jul 13, 2020
Rep. Takano, Mark [D-CA-41]	D · CA		Jul 13, 2020
Rep. Gomez, Jimmy [D-CA-34]	D · CA		Jul 20, 2020
Rep. Wasserman Schultz, Debbie [D-FL-23]	D · FL		Jul 24, 2020
Rep. Brownley, Julia [D-CA-26]	D · CA		Jul 29, 2020
Rep. Ruppersberger, C. A. Dutch [D-MD-2]	D · MD		Jul 29, 2020
Rep. Nadler, Jerrold [D-NY-10]	D · NY		Jul 30, 2020
Rep. Roybal-Allard, Lucille [D-CA-40]	D · CA		Jul 30, 2020
Rep. Crist, Charlie [D-FL-13]	D · FL		Aug 21, 2020
Rep. Deutch, Theodore E. [D-FL-22]	D · FL		Sep 1, 2020
Rep. McGovern, James P. [D-MA-2]	D · MA		Sep 1, 2020
Rep. Luria, Elaine G. [D-VA-2]	D · VA		Sep 4, 2020

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Trahan, Lori [D-MA-3]	D · MA		Sep 11, 2020
Rep. Meeks, Gregory W. [D-NY-5]	D · NY		Sep 18, 2020
Rep. Keating, William R. [D-MA-9]	D · MA		Sep 22, 2020
Rep. Jeffries, Hakeem S. [D-NY-8]	D · NY		Sep 29, 2020
Rep. Morelle, Joseph D. [D-NY-25]	D · NY		Sep 30, 2020
Rep. Ocasio-Cortez, Alexandria [D-NY-14]	D · NY		Oct 16, 2020
Rep. Scott, Robert C. "Bobby" [D-VA-3]	D · VA		Nov 2, 2020
Rep. Evans, Dwight [D-PA-3]	D · PA		Nov 9, 2020
Rep. Sherman, Brad [D-CA-30]	D · CA		Dec 10, 2020
Rep. Wild, Susan [D-PA-7]	D · PA		Dec 10, 2020
Rep. Johnson, Henry C. "Hank," Jr. [D-GA-4]	D · GA		Dec 18, 2020

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Energy and Commerce Committee	House	Referred To	Feb 11, 2020
Foreign Affairs Committee	House	Referred To	Feb 11, 2020
Transportation and Infrastructure Committee	House	Referred to	Feb 12, 2020
Ways and Means Committee	House	Referred To	Feb 11, 2020

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Environmental Protection

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
116 S 3944	Related bill	Jun 11, 2020: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.
116 S 3263	Identical bill	Feb 11, 2020: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.

Break Free From Plastic Pollution Act of 2020

This bill sets forth requirements related to waste and recycling collection systems for a variety of products and materials, including plastics.

The bill makes certain producers of products (e.g., packaging, paper, single-use products, beverage containers, or food service products) fiscally responsible for collecting, managing, and recycling or composting the products after consumer use. In addition, the bill establishes (1) minimum percentages of products that must be reused, recycled, or composted; and (2) an increasing percentage of recycled content that must be contained in beverage containers.

Beginning on January 1, 2022, the bill phases out a variety of single-use products, such as plastic utensils. The bill also sets forth provisions to encourage the reduction of single-use products, including by establishing programs to refund consumers for returning beverage containers and by establishing a tax on carryout bags.

The bill creates a temporary moratorium on new or expanded permits for facilities that manufacture plastics until regulations are updated to address pollution from the facilities.

The Environmental Protection Agency must publish guidelines for a national standardized labeling system for recycling and composting receptacles. Producers must include labels on their products that are easy to read and indicate whether the products are recyclable, compostable, or reusable.

Finally, the bill establishes limitations on the export of plastic waste to other countries.

Actions Timeline

- **Feb 12, 2020:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment.
- **Feb 11, 2020:** Introduced in House
- **Feb 11, 2020:** Referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, Transportation and Infrastructure, and Foreign Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.