

1 **2024 01 27 WSDCCRES1022 --- ENV RESOLUTION**

2 **SUPPORT COMPOST, REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE LEGISLATION IN WASHINGTON STATE**

3 **WHEREAS** the fossil fuel industry is ramping up plastics production to backfill losses in use of  
4 fossil fuels for energy and transportation with little to no effort to make recyclable packaging (1),  
5 many consumer products come in packaging that is difficult or not eligible to recycle with less  
6 than 5% of plastic being recycled nationally (2,3); and

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8 **WHEREAS** electronic products can be manufactured and marketed in such a way that they are  
9 easier to repair by owners or local independent repair shops thus increasing their useful lifespan,  
10 saving consumer dollars, and reducing negative environmental impacts; and

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12 **WHEREAS** composting is an effective way to reduce landfill volume and methane gas generation while  
13 improving climate impacts by enriching soils with living ecosystems of micro-organisms that capture and store  
14 excess carbon, taking it out of the atmosphere and sequestering it where it can be used to enhance farm and  
15 garden productivity, the implementation of uniform composting regulations throughout the state would benefit the  
16 environment and food production; and

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18 **WHEREAS** Zero Waste Washington (6) is leading an effort to pass legislation in Washington State to achieve  
19 greater reduction, reuse, and recycling of consumer products and organic materials,

20 **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Washington State Democratic Central Committee (WSDCC) urges,  
21 legislators to adopt legislation in 2024 and beyond that results in: reducing non-biodegradable waste products  
22 such as plastics, increased composting of organic materials, requiring manufacturers be responsible for recyclable  
23 packaging, requiring recycling and reuse of EV batteries, adopting programs that facilitate recycling locations and  
24 processes, and calling for the manufacture of products that consumers can have repaired;

25 **THEREFOR BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED** that this resolution shall be forwarded to the  
26 Washington State Governor, all Washington State House and Senate Democrats; Chairs of the  
27 House Environment and Energy and Senate Environment Energy and Technology Committees.  
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29 **References:**

30 1. CNBC, Feb 1, 2022, How the fossil fuel industry is pushing plastics on the world, by Katie Bringham  
31 <https://www.cnbc.com/2022/01/29/how-the-fossil-fuel-industry-is-pushing-plastics-on-the-world-.html>

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33 2. Greenpeace - NPR October 24, 2022, by Laura Sullivan - Recycling plastic is practically impossible — and the problem is  
34 getting worse: [https://www.npr.org/2022/10/24/1131131088/recycling-plastic-is-practically-impossible-and-the-problem-is-](https://www.npr.org/2022/10/24/1131131088/recycling-plastic-is-practically-impossible-and-the-problem-is-getting-worse)  
35 [getting-worse](https://www.npr.org/2022/10/24/1131131088/recycling-plastic-is-practically-impossible-and-the-problem-is-getting-worse) & Greenpeace 2022 full report update: [https://www.greenpeace.org/usa/wp-](https://www.greenpeace.org/usa/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/GPUS_FinalReport_2022.pdf)  
36 [content/uploads/2022/10/GPUS\\_FinalReport\\_2022.pdf](https://www.greenpeace.org/usa/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/GPUS_FinalReport_2022.pdf)

37 3. World Economic Forum, June 22, 2022. Top 25 recycling facts and statistics for 2022.  
38 <https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2022/06/recycling-global-statistics-facts-plastic-paper/>

39 4. CBS News, March 6, 2018 - The toll of the cobalt mining industry on health and the environment:  
40 <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/the-toll-of-the-cobalt-mining-industry-congo/>.

41 5. The Guardian, Dec 18, 2019, Jonathan Watts - How the race for cobalt risks turning it from miracle metal to deadly  
42 chemical. [https://www.theguardian.com/global-development/2019/dec/18/how-the-race-for-cobalt-risks-turning-it-from-](https://www.theguardian.com/global-development/2019/dec/18/how-the-race-for-cobalt-risks-turning-it-from-miracle-metal-to-deadly-chemical)  
43 [miracle-metal-to-deadly-chemical](https://www.theguardian.com/global-development/2019/dec/18/how-the-race-for-cobalt-risks-turning-it-from-miracle-metal-to-deadly-chemical)

44 6. Zero Waste Washington – and related 2023 WA State Legislative bills, <https://zerowastewashington.org/legislative-work/>