

PROTECTING COMMUNITIES FROM PLASTIC

Protecting Communities From Plastics Act Endorsements

5 Gyres; Alliance of Mission-Based Recyclers; Break Free from Plastic; Center for Biological Diversity; Center for Coalfield Justice; Center for International Environmental Law; Clean Air Council; Climate Reality Project; Flocktown Farm; Food & Water Watch; Friends of the Earth; GreenLatinos; Greenpeace USA; Grove Collaborative; Healthy Gulf; Just Transition Alliance; Loop; Moms Clean Air Force; Monterey Bay Aquarium; Northeast Organic Farming Association of New Jersey; Ocean Conservancy; Oceana; Oceanic Global; Occidental Arts and Ecology Center; Only One; Plastic Pollution Coalition; San Antonio Estuarine Waterkeeper; Seattle Aquarium; Surfrider Foundation; Taproot Earth; The Last Plastic Straw; The Story of Stuff Project; Turtle Island Restoration Network; Upstream; WE ACT for Environmental Justice

What Supporters are Saying about the Protecting Communities from Plastics Act

Astrid DuBois, Legislative Coordinator, WE ACT for Environmental Justice:

"Lives continue to be lost from the petrochemical industry's deadly pollution and outsized carbon emissions, which also drive climate change. The Protecting Communities from Plastic Act will safeguard Communities of Color and areas of low income, who are most impacted, from the burdens of inequitable facility siting and require cumulative impact considerations in the permitting process."

Melissa Aguayo, US Regional Coordinator, Break Free From Plastic:

"We are thrilled to see a bill that prioritizes the health and safety of frontline communities in calling for a reduction in single-use plastics and a pause on new or expanded plastic and petrochemical facilities. For too long, Black, Brown, Indigenous and low-income communities have suffered the worst impacts of the plastic pollution crisis – from the extraction of fossil fuels to plastic production and incineration. It is time to hold the petrochemical industry accountable for the harm and injustice they create by poisoning our air, water, and soil, as well as by fueling the climate crisis. The Protecting Communities from Plastics Act is an important first step towards replacing toxic and harmful petrochemicals with real solutions like nontoxic reuse and refill systems."

Dr. Anja Brandon, Associate Director of U.S. Plastics Policy at Ocean Conservancy:

"The Protecting Communities From Plastics Act is a critical step towards addressing the sweeping harms caused by the petrochemical industry at the root of both the climate and the plastic pollution crises. It also ensures that the U.S. does not continue to rely on harmful systems that perpetuate single-use in the form of chemical recycling or incineration: the legislation will prevent the EPA from including chemical recycling technologies in the national recycling strategy, and will instead focus on making less plastic in the first place."

Melody Reis, Senior Legislative Manager, Moms Clean Air Force:

“There isn’t a part of our planet that remains untouched by plastic. As plastic pollution piles up in our waterways, oceans, and landfills, and is burned in incinerators, the oil and gas industry is doubling down on the production of plastics and other petrochemicals. Plastic is harmful at every stage of its life cycle from extraction to disposal, contributing to climate change, releasing toxic chemicals, and finding its way into our bodies – even the bodies of newborn babies. The Protecting Communities From Plastics Act will reduce our reliance on unnecessary plastics, protect the health of the families living in the fence-line communities located near plastics facilities, and expand our understanding of the effect of plastics on the human body. Moms Clean Air Force commends Senator Booker and Representative Huffman for introducing this bill and urges its swift passage.”

Blake Kopcho, a senior campaigner at the Center for Biological Diversity:

“Plastic production is out of control, and frontline communities are suffering the most from the noxious pollution this industry releases into the air and chemicals it dumps into the water. The only way to keep plastic out of our air, water, wildlife and even our own bodies is to make less of it. Holding petrochemical companies accountable for the toxic substances they create and profit from makes a ton of sense, and we need bold legislation like this act to do it.”

Jennifer Savage, Plastic Pollution Initiative Senior Manager, Surfrider Foundation:

"Plastic pollution is far more than a trash problem that can be solved by recycling. From polluting our air and water to extending dependence on fossil fuels, plastic production is toxic at every stage. We applaud the Protecting Communities from Plastics Act for calling out the ongoing harm plastic manufacture has on human and planetary health, and providing a much-needed course correction toward the safer, healthier and more sustainable future we all deserve."