

**House File 776 - Introduced**

HOUSE FILE 776

BY ISENHART

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act relating to the purchase, use, and disposal of plastic  
2 products.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 8A.311, Code 2021, is amended by adding  
2 the following new subsection:

3 NEW SUBSECTION. 24. *a.* For purposes of this subsection,  
4 "*single-use plastic product*" includes any of the following:

- 5 (1) Plastic bags.
- 6 (2) Cling film plastic food packaging.
- 7 (3) Nonrecyclable plastic bottles.
- 8 (4) Plastic straws.
- 9 (5) Plastic plates, nonreusable plastic containers,  
10 plastic cups, plastic lids, and plastic stirrers.
- 11 (6) Plastic cutlery.
- 12 (7) Plastic rings used in packaging.
- 13 (8) Plastic foam plates, plastic foam takeout containers,  
14 and plastic foam trays.
- 15 (9) Any other single-use plastic products determined to  
16 be included by the department of administrative services, in  
17 consultation with the department of natural resources.

18 *b.* A state agency or a political subdivision of the state  
19 shall not purchase or obtain for any purpose a single-use  
20 plastic product.

21 Sec. 2. PLASTIC POLLUTION STUDY GROUP.

22 1. The department of natural resources shall assemble a  
23 study group composed of relevant stakeholders, including but  
24 not limited to a person associated with the manufacturing of  
25 plastic products, a person associated with the recycling of  
26 plastic products, a person associated with the operation of  
27 a small landfill, a person associated with the operation of  
28 a large landfill, a person whose occupation involves the use  
29 of recyclable plastic, a person involved with an environmental  
30 protection advocacy group, a person involved with a natural  
31 resources conservation organization, an appointee from the  
32 department of transportation, and a representative from a local  
33 government board, council, department, or agency.

34 2. The study group shall estimate the amount of  
35 nonbiodegradable plastics going to landfills, recycling

1 centers, and wastewater treatment facilities in the state. The  
2 study group shall quantify the presence of plastic pollutants  
3 otherwise discarded in or discharged to the state's land and  
4 waters.

5 3. The study group shall prepare a report providing  
6 recommendations for laws, policies, and best practices that can  
7 be adopted by the general assembly, state agencies, political  
8 subdivisions of the state, and other public and private  
9 purchasers, users, transporters, and processors of plastics  
10 to reduce and eliminate nonbiodegradable plastics and plastic  
11 pollutants from waste streams and the natural environment. The  
12 study group shall submit its report to the general assembly no  
13 later than August 1, 2022.

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EXPLANATION

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The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with  
the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

17 This bill relates to the purchase, use, and disposal of  
18 plastic products. The bill defines the term "single-use  
19 plastic product" and prohibits a state agency or political  
20 subdivision of the state from purchasing or obtaining for any  
21 purpose a single-use plastic product. The bill requires the  
22 department of natural resources to assemble a study group to  
23 estimate the amount of nonbiodegradable plastic moving through  
24 waste streams in the state and quantify the amount of plastic  
25 pollutants discarded in or discharged to the state's land and  
26 waters. The bill requires the study group to submit a report  
27 to the general assembly no later than August 1, 2022, providing  
28 recommendations for laws, policies, and best practices to  
29 reduce and eliminate plastics from waste streams and the  
30 natural environment.