# Single-use Plastic Reduction Template

# Purpose and Use of this Template

This template is intended to help you create the Single-use Plastic Reduction policy that works best for your community. This can be introduced at the local, county, or state level. Your bill will help limit the negative impacts on public health and the environment that is caused by single-use plastic waste and pollution.

To create your bill:

1. Keep this downloaded template open on your computer.
2. While you have the template open, go through the toolkit. It is linked here:

[Just Zero’s Single-use Plastic Reduction Toolkit](https://just-zero.org/single-use-plastic-legislative-toolkit/)

1. Read through the toolkit to learn more about each section of the bill and the different policy approaches you can select for your bill.
2. Decide which policy approaches meet your goals and objectives.
3. Copy the toolkit’s sample language for your selections and paste it into the right place in this template.
4. Read through your bill and correct any formatting. This includes text color and making sure the number and letter lists are all in numerical or alphabetical order.
5. When you’re finished, you’ll have a custom-made bill that you can take to your elected representatives to try and turn into a law.

# Template Key

Black Text: This text is language that is used in every Single-use Plastic Reduction Law and **should not be removed** unless it is an optional section that you are choosing not to include in your bill.

Blue Text: This text provides you with guidance on how to use this template. **This text should be deleted.**

Red Text: This text provides guidance on where you should copy the suggested language from Just Zero’s Trash Burning Legislation Toolkit and paste it into this template to create your model bill. **This text should be deleted after you finish each section.**

# **Single-use Plastic Reduction Law**

## Section 1: Definitions

To develop this section:

1. Read Section 1 of Just Zero’s Single-use Plastic Reduction Toolkit;
2. Depending on what products you want to regulate, include “food service business” and “retail establishment” in your definition section below.

\* This section will also include additional terms depending on the products you want to regulate in your bill. Read each section in the Toolkit for guidance on what to include in Section 1. \*

1. “Department” means the [Insert the name of your State or Local Environmental Agency]
2. “Food service business” means a business that sells or provides food for consumption on or off the premises, and includes, but is not limited to, any restaurant, café, delicatessen, coffee shop, convenience store, grocery store, vending truck or cart, food truck, movie theater, or business or institutional cafeteria, including those operated by or on behalf of any governmental entity.

*Only include the definition of “food service business if you are opting to include Section 2 (bags), 3 (polystyrene foam), 4 (single-use plastic straws), 6 (black plastics), 8 (wet wipes, 9 (non-compostable plastic produce stickers), or 10 (single-use plastic water bottles) in your bill. If not, delete this definition.*

1. “Person” means any individual, corporation, company, association, society, firm, partnership, joint stock company, or government entity.
2. “Plastic” means a synthetic material made from linking monomers through a chemical reaction to create an organic polymer chain that can be molded or extruded at high heat into various solid forms retaining their defined shapes during the life cycle and after disposal.
3. “Retail establishment” means a store or premises in which a person is engaged in the retail business of selling or providing merchandise, goods, groceries, prepared take-out food and beverages for consumption off-premises or the servicing of an item, directly to customers at such store or premises, including, but not limited to, grocery stores, department stores, pharmacies, convenience stores, restaurants, coffee shops and seasonal and temporary businesses, including farmers markets and public markets;

A “retail establishment” shall also include a food truck or other motor vehicle, mobile canteen, trailer, market pushcart or moveable roadside stand used by a person from which to engage in such business directly with customers and business establishments without a storefront, including, but not limited to, a business delivering prepared foods or other food items, web-based or catalog business or delivery services used by a retail establishment; provided further, that a “retail establishment” shall include a non-profit organization, charity or religious institution that has a retail establishment and holds itself out to the public as engaging in retail activities that are characteristic of similar type retail businesses, whether or not for profit when engaging in such activity.

*Only include the definition of “retail establishment” if you are opting to include Section 2 (bags), 3 (polystyrene foam), 4 (single-use plastic straws), 6 (black plastics), or 11 (skip the stuff) in your bill. If not delete this definition.*

## Section 2: Single-use Carryout Bags

If you want to include this section:

1. Read Section 2 of Just Zero’s Single-use Plastic Reduction Toolkit;
2. Review the options in Section 2;
3. Select the option that you want to include in your bill;
4. Copy the sample definitions for that option and paste them into Section 1 of this template; and
5. Copy the sample language for that option and paste it below.

## Section 3: Single-use Polystyrene Foam Products

If you want to include this section:

1. Read Section 3 of Just Zero’s Single-use Plastic Reduction Toolkit;
2. Review the options in Section 3;
3. Select the option that you want to include in your bill;
4. Copy the sample definitions for that option and paste them into Section 1 of this template; and
5. Copy the sample language for that option and paste it below.

## Section 4: Use of Single-use Plastic Straws

If you want to include this section:

1. Read Section 4 of Just Zero’s Single-use Plastic Reduction Toolkit;
2. Copy the sample definitions and paste them into Section 1 of this template; and
3. Copy the sample language and paste it below.

## Section 5: Single-use Mini-Toiletries at Lodging Establishments

If you want to include this section:

1. Read Section 5 of Just Zero’s Single-use Plastic Reduction Toolkit;
2. Copy the sample definitions and paste them into Section 1 of this template; and
3. Copy the sample language and paste it below.

## Section 6: Black Plastic Takeout Containers

If you want to include this section:

1. Read Section 6 of Just Zero’s Single-use Plastic Reduction Toolkit;
2. Copy the sample definitions and paste them into Section 1 of this template; and
3. Copy the sample language and paste it below.

## Section 7: Intentional Balloon Releases

If you want to include this section:

1. Read Section 7 of Just Zero’s Single-use Plastic Reduction Toolkit;
2. Copy the sample definitions and paste them into Section 1 of this template; and
3. Copy the sample language and paste it below.

## Section 8: Plastic Wet Wipes

If you want to include this section:

1. Read Section 8 of Just Zero’s Single-use Plastic Reduction Toolkit;
2. Copy the sample definitions and paste them into Section 1 of this template; and
3. Copy the sample language and paste it below.

## Section 9: Noncompostable Produce Stickers

If you want to include this section:

1. Read Section 9 of Just Zero’s Single-use Plastic Reduction Toolkit;
2. Copy the sample definitions and paste them into Section 1 of this template; and
3. Copy the sample language and paste it below.

## Section 10: Single-use Plastic Water Bottles

If you want to include this section:

1. Read Section 10 of Just Zero’s Single-use Plastic Reduction Toolkit;
2. Copy the sample definitions and paste them into Section 1 of this template; and
3. Copy the sample language and paste it below.

## Section 11: Single-use Plastic Food Serviceware Upon Request

If you want to include this section:

1. Read Section 11 of Just Zero’s Single-use Plastic Reduction Toolkit;
2. Copy the sample definitions and paste them into Section 1 of this template; and
3. Copy the sample language and paste it below.

## Section 12: Preemption

Only include this section if you are introducing the bill at a county/state level. Do not include this section if you are introducing this bill in a city or town. To develop this section:

1. Read Section 12 of Just Zero’s Single-use Plastic Reduction Toolkit; and
2. Copy the sample language and paste it below.

## Section 13: Severability

To develop this section:

1. Read Section 13 of Just Zero’s Single-use Plastic Reduction Toolkit; and
2. Copy the sample language and paste it below.

## Section 14: Rulemaking

To develop this section:

1. Read Section 14 of Just Zero’s Single-use Plastic Reduction Toolkit; and
2. Copy the sample language and paste it below.

## Section 15: Enforcement

To develop this section:

1. Read Section 15 of Just Zero’s Single-use Plastic Reduction Toolkit; and
2. Copy the sample language and paste it below.