

**INQUIRY INTO WASTE AVOIDANCE AND RESOURCE  
RECOVERY AMENDMENT (PLASTICS REDUCTION)  
BILL 2021**

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The ocean and sea life are already facing many challenges from human industries. From agricultural runoff causing dead zones, glacial melting, over fishing, shark nets and by catch from industrial fishing, coral bleaching, and so forth. It hardly needs the additional effects of our single use plastic items entering the ocean.

It's a no brainer to follow other countries by banning these items that are totally unnecessary. Even if these throw away items do not enter the ocean, most of them end up in landfill causing additional release of methane. If, it does end up being recycled, it is 'downcycled' using more energy and resources, and in most case only reused one additional time.

On a personal level, I pick up rubbish off my local beach daily. There is never a day that I do not find a bag full of waste washing up. These are just light items, imagine what is still out there, killing marine life, breaking down and leeching toxins into the waterways.

The Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Amendment (Plastics Reduction) Bill 2021 would phase out single-use plastics, polystyrene packaging, products containing plastic microbeads and other plastic products harmful to the environment and all animals in the sea and on land. It must be passed, let's catch up to other states in Australia and globally.