Recent Foodware Legislation



Since 2019, Oregon has enacted a series of legislative measures aimed at addressing single-use plastics, polystyrene foam, and chemicals in foodware containers. The following summary outlines the key provisions of these laws. Food vendors should also check with their local jurisdiction to learn about related city ordinances.

2019

Plastic Bags - House Bill 2509

Prohibits a retail establishment or restaurant from providing a single-use checkout bag to customers, with some exceptions. The Act establishes that violating the prohibition is a Class D violation subject to a maximum fine of \$250 each day the violation occurs.

Plastic Straws - Senate Bill 90

Prohibits a food and beverage provider or a convenience store from providing a single-use plastic straw unless requested by the consumer. The Act authorizes an enforcement officer to impose a fine of up to \$25 per day after a second violation, and up to \$300 in a calendar year for food and beverage providers that are not in compliance.

2021

Recycling Modernization Act - Senate Bill 582

Updates Oregon's recycling system by building on local community programs and leveraging the resources of producers to create a system that works for everyone. The law requires producers of packaging, paper products, and food serviceware to share responsibility for management of their products after use. The new law went into effect January 1, 2022, and program changes will start in July 2025.

2023

Polystyrene and Food Containers with Intentionally Added PFAS -

Senate Bill 543

Prohibits a food vendor from using a polystyrene foam container in the sale of prepared food and prohibits a person from selling or distributing polystyrene foam containers, polystyrene foam packaging peanuts, or foodware containers containing intentionally added perfluoroalkyl or polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in or into the State of Oregon.

Refillable Food Containers - Senate Bill 545

Directs the Oregon Health Authority to adopt rules providing restaurants the option of allowing their customers to use refillable food containers. For information on adopted agency rules, please see <u>Oregon Health Authority</u> and <u>Oregon Department of Agriculture</u> fact sheets.