

**Mark Meek**  
**State Representative**  
**District 40**



**House of Representatives**

April 23, 2019

Timothy G. Sekerak  
Chief Clerk, Oregon House of Representatives  
900 Court Street NE, Room H-271  
Salem, OR 97301

**Subject: HB 2883 A Vote Explanation**

**Dear Chief Clerk Sekerak,**

I voted no on House Bill 2883 A and wish to explain my vote.

Each of us has a personal responsibility to do our part to keep our environment clean, and I have supported efforts in the past to meaningfully reduce the proliferation of litter and promote a clean and healthy environment for all Oregonians. I voted no on HB 2883 A because I am concerned that banning common consumer products made with polystyrene will simply lead to other single-use containers being used in their place, while increasing costs on small businesses who already operate on thin margins.

As a small business owner, I also worry that HB 2883 A sends the wrong message to entrepreneurs in Oregon. New technology, pioneered by innovators right here in our state, has now made it possible to fully recycle polystyrene in an eco-friendly manner. Companies like Agilyx in Tigard, Oregon are helping us to reduce waste – on their own dime – while creating jobs and economic growth. We should be promoting this kind of innovation and job creation in “green” new technologies – not discouraging it.

Finally, HB 2883 A fails to fully realize its policy objective of reducing polystyrene waste by lacking an enforcement mechanism to meaningfully penalize violators.

Sincerely,

**Mark Meek**

**State Representative – Oregon House District 40**