

The Associated Students  
Of  
New Mexico State University

Resolution #20

The attached legislation has been properly approved by the members of the Sixtieth Senate of the Associated Students of New Mexico State University in accordance with ASNMSU Law.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Donovan Olvera, ASNMSU Chief Senate Clerk

12/12/16  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Kevin Prieto, ASNMSU Vice President

12/12/16  
Date

SENATE OF THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS  
OF NEW MEXICO STATE UNIVERSITY

RESOLUTION #20

SIXTIETH SENATE

2016-2017

Introduced by: Downing, Martin, Cruz Date: 10/4/2016  
Referred to: Rules, Community Affairs, Finance Date: 10/6/2016  
Senate Action: FAVORABLE RECOMMENDATION Date: 11/3/2016  
Date Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

LX-16-17

A RESOLUTION

1 CONCERNING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF BIODEGRADABLE PRODUCTS FOR FOUNTAIN  
2 SERVICES AND FOOD SERVICES ACROSS THE NMSU CAMPUS. BE IT RESOLVED BY THE  
3 SENATE OF THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF NEW MEXICO STATE UNIVERSITY.

4

5 WHEREAS, the switch from Coca-Cola products to PepsiCo products in the summer of 2016 involved an  
6 68-year contract to use products that are non-biodegradable Styrofoam cups; and

7

8 WHEREAS, NMSU has previously introduced sustainability efforts across the campus including water  
9 usage, recycling, garbage disposal, and composting. Ranking third in the RecycleMania tournament in  
10 2015, out of 233 universities, NMSU should maintain these sustainability efforts. Reports from Kansas  
11 State University state "We will implement practices that will embrace New Mexico State University's refill  
12 stations located throughout campus."(Cox et al., 2015) and;

13

14 WHEREAS, The PepsiCo 2014 Sustainability Report states that three environmental goals of the company  
15 include, "innovate our packaging to make it increasingly sustainable, minimizing our impact on the  
16 environment. Work to eliminate solid waste to landfills from our product facilities. And work to achieve an  
17 absolute reduction in greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions across our global business." and

18

19 WHEREAS, Frenger Food Court uses Styrofoam clamshell products for food delivery and their services  
20 rendered to students on a daily basis, and;

21

22 WHEREAS, The US Department of Health and Human Services has declared styrene, the monomer of  
23 polystyrene (Styrofoam), to be a "reasonably anticipated carcinogen." Styrene may also leach from  
24 polystyrene containers used for food products. Polystyrene cannot biodegrade or breakdown via other  
25 means, remaining in the environment for thousands of years. Polystyrene is manufactured with HCFC-22, a  
26 greenhouse gas that affects the ozone layer, and petroleum, a non-sustainable and highly polluting resource,  
27 and;

28

29 WHEREAS in April 2016, US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Regional Administrator, Shaun  
30 McGrath, presented the President's Environmental Youth Award to Leadville fourth grade "Styrofoam  
31 Stoppers" as recognition for environmental leadership (Mylott, 2016), and;

32

33 WHEREAS, the Natural Resources Council of Maine determines that the price difference in Styrofoam and  
34 alternative materials is, in most cases, only fractions of a cent; these prices range from \$(0.010) to \$0.053,  
35 for cups, bowls, plates and clamshell products. Being such a small margin of difference, it is economically  
36 manageable to make the switch to help the health of NMSU students and the health of the environment.

37

38 THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Associated Students of New Mexico State University that New  
39 Mexico State University implements the change from Styrofoam to biodegradable products, including clamshell for food and  
40 paper cups for fountain drinks, in order to maintain advancement in the efforts of sustainability.

41

42 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies be sent to the President of New Mexico State University, Provost and Executive  
43 Vice President of New Mexico State University, President of the Associated Students of New Mexico State University, Vice  
44 President of the Associated Students of New Mexico State University, the Sodexo General Manager of New Mexico State  
45 University, and the NMSU Assistant Vice President for Auxiliary Services.