

#breakfreefromplastic

Plastic-Free Resolution

University of South Florida – Tampa, Spring 2020

Student FLPIRGs

A tool which a Student or Faculty governing body can sign, urging their President (or other school-wide decision-maker) to sign the above pledge. Can also be used as the basis of a student petition.

Whereas, more than 70% of the world's plastic winds up in landfills and incinerators, or is lost to the world's waterways, it is estimated that there will be more plastic than fish, by weight, in the world's oceans by 2050.

Whereas, Microplastic debris in waterways and the world's oceans cause bio-accumulation of carcinogenic toxins including dioxins and PBT's in the fatty tissue of fish, birds, and marine mammals.

Whereas, The EPA classifies "Source Reduction" (ie, elimination of the purchase and distribution of disposable plastics) as the highest impact form of pollution prevention

Whereas, the global plastics recycling markets are challenged by the over-abundance of contaminated plastics (ie, plastic that is non-recyclable due to food residue and non-recyclable material mixed into the recycling stream)

Resolved,

The Student Government Senate

DocuSigned by:

Salud Martinez Martinez

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Senate President

DocuSigned by:



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Senate President Pro tempore

urges **Steve Currall** to commit to the Post-Landfill Action Network's "Break Free From Plastic"

Pledge by **Fall 2021**. The pledge calls on campuses to:

1. Establish a purchasing policy which eliminates campus and food vendor procurement of all ***non-essential, non-compostable, single-use disposable plastics*** - while keeping accessibility and affordability at the forefront of decision-making to ensure that accommodations are made for all users of the system.

2. Commit to keeping an eye towards plastic-free alternatives in future procurement decisions and policies regarding items that cannot currently be eliminated due to a lack of viable alternatives.
3. Invest in **education, resources, and infrastructure** to assist in the Plastic-Free Campus transition.