

**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 313**  
**February 20, 2020 \* Finance Committee**

Chairmen Kelley and Members of the Committee:

I am in favor of SB313. I wasn't planning to submit a testimony, but something happened to me last week that made me think that I should. *I went to the hardware store.* I went to a particular one, one of the big ones, because I knew that they accepted plastic bags for recycling. When I arrived, I noticed that the recycle bin had a little hole, so I had to take my bags a few at a time and insert them into the small opening. When I had finished, I turned around and saw a store employee behind me. She was upset. I asked if I had done anything wrong. She replied "only store bags should go in there... now I have to clean them out!" Well, I have to admit that there were only a few of the store's bags, and not all of them were carry-out bags. I offered to help get my bags out of the bin, but by that time she had pulled a large plastic bag fresh off of the roll, and started to put my bags into it. I asked her where the bags were going, and she said "now they are going to the dumpster". I felt bad because not only were my bags going into the dumpster, but so was the big bag that was used to collect them.

I think that people use a lot of plastic bags because they think that they are going to be recycled. However, I'm beginning to wonder if, despite the best of intentions, this is not always the case. Recycling is a good thing, but it is only part of the solution. *People need to change their behavior and use less bags.* SB313 is a good bill because it will help us do that. I ask for a favorable report on SB313.

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