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Subject: Bills Committee on Waste Disposal (Charging for Municipal Solid Waste)
(Amendment) Bill 2018

To: Clerk to Bills Committee

Plastic Free Seas supports the introduction of the charging scheme for MSW but urges the government to:

Legislate to curb the use of unnecessary plastic packaging which the consumers will have to pay to dispose of it, particularly non-recyclable or hard to recycle materials such as polystyrene food containers, foam packaging on fruits and vegetables and wrap on fruits and vegetables. Producer responsibility schemes should be quickly adopted in order to support efficient collection and proper disposal.

Expand local collection systems for recyclable items to ensure everyone has access to collection or drop-off for all recyclable materials. The types of paper and plastic widely collected must also be expanded beyond the 3 paper and 2 plastic strategy. In addition, Hong Kong needs improved recycling technology, with the use of Material Recovery Facilities to properly sort the waste to allow for efficient processing of recyclable materials.

Enforce laws for illegal dumping and improve investigation of dumping events.

Promote education on reduction of waste generation, including sorting at source and recycling.

Best regards,

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