

SAMPLE FOOD BUSINESS OPERATOR LETTER IN SUPPORT OF A REUSABLE FOODWARE ORDINANCE

INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE. A business support letter should be short and to the point since business operators generally don't have time to read or write a long letter. There are two options for how to use the sample.

Option a: Provide a locally customized version of this sample letter for business operators to use to write an individual and personalized letter.

Advocates might want to include instructions for how and when to submit the letter online for the legislative record and also collect a hard copy and send it directly to each legislator on the legislative body to be sure they read the letter prior to the hearing. Collecting the letter personally also helps you know which businesses have written a letter and helps to ensure that they don't forget to write it.

Option b: Make it a sign-on letter where businesses add their name and address at the bottom.

Less powerful than personalized letters from business operators, sign-on letters are for businesses that won't take the time to write their own letters. However, having a list of local businesses in support of the ordinance is still very powerful. Once the signatures are gathered, advocates can share the sign-on letter with the local elected officials prior to a vote. Make sure that the letter goes into the public record by submitting it during the public comment period prior to the first hearing on the proposed policy.

DATE

Dear **INSERT NAME OF THE LEGISLATIVE BODY:**

As a local restaurant operating in the City of XXX, insert name of the restaurant
(OPTION A)

The undersigned businesses (OPTION B)

...recognize(s) that disposable foodware contributes to litter and waste insert **name of local jurisdiction**. Single-use foodware also increases the cost of food business operations. From purchasing disposables, to paying for waste disposal, to litter cleanup - these costs add up.

But reusable plates, cups, and utensils for onsite dining and reducing disposables used for take-out can save businesses money. Reusables can also help **insert name of jurisdiction** businesses be more climate-friendly while reducing plastic pollution.

Therefore, we support the proposed **insert the name of the ordinance** that prioritizes:

[SAMPLE SUMMARY OF PROVISIONS- CUSTOMIZE THESE BULLETS FOR YOUR ORDINANCE]

- **reusables for onsite dining** -requiring that restaurants serving customers on-site use reusable cups, plates, and cutlery,
- **reducing disposable cups for take-out** -charging customers \$0.25 for disposable cups in order to encourage reuse options such as customers bringing their own reusable or choosing to consume beverages onsite, and
- **compostable disposables** - requiring that all takeout disposable foodware must be natural-fiber compostable - no bioplastics.

I /We respectfully urge the **insert the name of the legislative body** to support this ordinance.

Sincerely,

Manager or Owner Name
Business Name
Business Address

FOR SIGN-ON LETTERS, ADD ADDITIONAL SIGNATURES BELOW THE FIRST ONE