



## **OPPOSE SB 588 “Preemption of Local Regulations”**

- Straws are often littered, or caught by the wind, and washed into storm drains and other waterways. Ultimately, they end up in the ocean and on our beaches. Plastic straws are frequently cited as one of the top ten contributors to marine pollution.
- Plastics comprise up to 90% of floating marine debris, and up to 80% of the plastic in our oceans comes from land-based sources.
- In 2018, straws and stirrers were the 7th most commonly found item on beaches worldwide on International Coastal Cleanup Day.
- Plastic straws cannot be effectively recycled.
- Plastic does not biodegrade. Instead, it photodegrades into smaller and smaller pieces. These microplastics absorb toxins and chemicals. In 2011, NOAA found that plastic debris accumulates pollutants, such as PCBs, up to 100,000 to 1,000,000 times the levels found in seawater.
- Marine life, including sea turtles, can be harmed by ingesting plastic straws and broken-down plastic.
- To date, 18 municipalities in Florida have passed single-use plastic straw ordinances. At least three additional municipalities are in the process of considering an ordinance.