

**RESOLUTION NO. 19-\_\_\_\_\_**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GALVESTON, TEXAS, ENCOURAGING FOOD AND BEVERAGE ESTABLISHMENTS WITHIN THE CITY OF GALVESTON TO REFRAIN FROM PROVIDING PLASTIC STRAWS AND STIRRERS TO THEIR CUSTOMERS EXCEPT ON SPECIFIC REQUEST, ENCOURAGING THE USE OF PAPER, PLANTS AND OTHER NATURAL MATERIALS IN LIEU OF PLASTIC STRAWS AND STIRRERS, DIRECTING THE CITY SECRETARY TO SEND CERTIFIED COPIES OF THIS RESOLUTION TO THE GALVESTON RESTAURANT ASSOCIATION AND THE GALVESTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE FOR DISSEMINATION TO THEIR MEMBERS; PROVIDING FOR FINDINGS OF FACT AND FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

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**WHEREAS**, on a yearly basis millions of tons of plastic pollution flows into the oceans and this amount is expected to increase unless positive steps are taken to prevent plastics from entering the environment; and

**WHEREAS**, while plastics are ubiquitous in our society, plastic waste is neither compostable nor biodegradable, but instead photodegrades into smaller pieces which are then ingested by terrestrial and marine life and can eventually make its way into the human food chain and water supply; and

**WHEREAS**, it is incumbent on all citizens of Galveston to lend their assistance to the reduction of plastics into the natural environment which is so critical to the livelihood of so many in this area; and

**WHEREAS**, the threat posed to the environment and humans by plastics can be diminished incrementally through behavioral changes which are easily made; and

**WHEREAS**, plastic straws and stirrers are not essential to most people but instead are convenience items whose use can be lessened by encouraging food and beverage establishments and other facilities to refrain from providing them except on request of their customer; and

**WHEREAS**, straws and stirrers made of paper, plants and other natural materials are available and are more environmentally friendly than plastic straws and stirrers, and food and related establishments are encouraged to utilize them in lieu of plastic straws and stirrers; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council of the City of Galveston, Texas, deems it in the public interest to adopt this Resolution and encourage voluntary compliance by all food and beverage establishments in the City.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GALVESTON, TEXAS:**

**SECTION 1.** The findings and recitations set out in the preamble to this Resolution are found to be true and correct and are hereby adopted by the City Council and made a part hereof for all purposes.

**SECTION 2.** The City Council of the City of Galveston gives its strongest recommendation to all those entities in the food and beverage industry to refrain from providing plastic straws and/or stirrers to their customers except on their specific request.

**SECTION 3.** The City Council of the City of Galveston further recommends to all those entities in the food and beverage industry abandon the use of plastic straws and stirrers in favor of products made of more environmentally friendly paper, plants and other natural materials.

**SECTION 4.** This Resolution shall become effective upon its adoption by the City Council of the City of Galveston.

**SECTION 5.** The City Secretary is directed to send certified copies of this Resolution to the Galveston Restaurant Association and the Galveston Chamber of Commerce for dissemination among their members.

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

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DONALD S. GLYWASKY  
CITY ATTORNEY

I, Janelle Williams, Secretary of the City Council of the City of Galveston, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of an Ordinance adopted by the City Council of the City of Galveston at its regular meeting held on the 28<sup>th</sup> day of February 2019, as the same appears in records of this office.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I subscribe my name hereto officially under the corporate seal of the City of Galveston this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2019.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary for the City Council  
of the City of Galveston

