

Health and Environment Committee

From: Wendy Wallin [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 10 December 2020 4:35 PM
To: Health and Environment Committee
Subject: Submission to Parliamentary Bill Committee: Legislation to BAN Single-Use Plastics
Attachments: Corella in Crisis Photo 2019.jpg; Corella & Dome Lids.jpeg; Say No Lid, Thanks.jpg; Cut Dome Lids with Scissors.jpg; Deathtrap Lids and Ring Seals.jpg; Corella Article Redcliffe & Bayside Herald.JPG; Sunshine Coast Daily Headline.png; Corres Minister Enoch 4 Sept 2020.pdf; Corres Minister Enoch 17 Sept 2020.pdf
Categories: Submission

<http://chnng.it/w82TGW9TDp>



Sign the Petition

Ban Deadly Plastic Dome Drink Lids and Plastic Ring Seals IMMEDIATELY & SAVE OUR WILDLIFE

chnng.it

<https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=2434123190155053>

Submission to Parliamentary Bill Committee
Legislation to BAN Single-Use Plastics - Plastic Takeaway DOME Drink Lids

Dear Sir/Madam,

This upsetting photo was taken in my home suburb of Deception Bay, Queensland. I have been working tirelessly on this campaign to BAN unnecessary and lethal Plastic Takeaway Dome Drink Lids and Plastic Ring Seals for over 18 months. I have sent hundreds of emails to Local, State and Federal Governments, Media (both Print and Television) and Environment and Wildlife Groups and have failed to gain consistent momentum. It's heartbreaking how human convenience is devastating wildlife. This critical issue must not be ignored any longer, please help.

What keeps me going is that I can not unsee the dire predicament this innocent little Corella found himself in, and I think of all those other creatures in the same terrifying situation that we don't see. The scent of something sweet probably attracted this little bird to the discarded drink, he would have taken a sip and got his head caught in the Lid. Imagine the absolute terror of that moment!

Dome Lids are rife in the Fastfood, Takeaway and Cafe Industries. I find them discarded everywhere. Every day I pick up Dome Lids, Ring Seals and other dangerous items off the beach, in community playgrounds, parks, roads, shopping centre car parks, etc. I take them home and cut them in half before responsible disposal. I don't do it for the litterbugs, or for me, I do it for our vulnerable

wildlife. Sadly we can't change some people's abhorrent behaviour, but if these dangerous items didn't exist, they can't be littered.

The Government must act now to ban these unnecessary and lethal Dome Lids. I recognise that Plastic Ring Seals (also deadly) will take a much longer timeframe to BAN as they are found under an incredible array of products, but I see no reason to delay BANNING Dome Lids.

I've attached correspondence between myself and the Office of the Minister for Environment and the Great Barrier Reef, Minister for Science and Minister for the Arts for your perusal. Urgent support is needed to include Dome Drink Lids before your Single-Use Plastics Bill becomes Legislation.

We (myself and my 3362 Petition Supporters to date) state that Dome Drink Lids 100% fit the criteria to ban now i.e.

- Readily available alternatives to deadly Plastic Dome Lids are existing Plastic Flat Lids, which at least, being made of flexible plastic, can be torn with hands (giving wildlife a chance of escape after entrapment).
- Dome Lids use can be totally avoided in the first place as they are superfluous and completely unnecessary to drink a drink.
- If toppings i.e. cream and sprinkles are requested, a deeper cup can be used to accommodate this and a flat lid be used.
- Dome Lids can only be cut with scissors and as such are a death sentence to wildlife.

Ultimately our goal is a total ban. In the meantime, education is essential. My message is: Say "No Lid, Thanks". If you must use one, or see one littered, cut it in half with scissors and dispose of it responsibly (Dome Lids rigid plastic and sharp inner edge can not be torn with hands. If a bird or small animal is caught, it's guaranteed a slow and painful death sentence either through strangulation or starvation).

Until people are made aware, they have never considered the dangers of entrapment to wildlife from Plastic Dome Drink Lids, Plastic Ring Seals, Rubber Bands, Hair Ties, etc and now Face Mask loops are also in the mix. This is about a kinder planet for all living things on land, sea & sky. We must be their voice.

Your Queensland Government is now calling for submissions to ban Polystyrene and while I welcome and support any ban on plastics and polystyrene, in my opinion, Dome Lids and Ring Seals are far more fatally detrimental to wildlife than plates and polystyrene.

Please BAN Dome Lids alongside Straws, Stirrers, Cutlery and Plates now. I believe Dome Lids should be banned before Polystyrene. Any further delay means certain suffering and cruel deaths to more innocent wildlife.

I invite you to please read my Petition, all Updates and read my suggestions for alternatives to Lids and Ring Seals <http://chnng.it/w82TGW9TDp>

I encourage you to also visit Australian Wildlife Society's "Snip Rings for Wildlife" Campaign which deserves considerably more attention <https://www.aws.org.au/snip-rings-for-wildlife/>

Snip Rings for Wildlife - Australian Wildlife Society

SNIP RINGS FOR WILDLIFE. The Society founded a new campaign called Snip Rings for Wildlife in 2020. The campaign aimed to raise awareness and encourage individuals to protect Australia's wildlife, by cutting through plastic rings, rubber bands, hair ties, the loops of facemasks, and plastic dome-shaped lids before disposing of them. Each year, thousands of birds and air-breathing aquatic ...

www.aws.org.au

If just one State bans these lethal & totally unnecessary Dome Drink Lids, surely the rest of Australia, and the world, will follow. I would be so proud if my home state of Queensland were the first!

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you require any further information.

Thank you. In kindness, Wendy

Yours sincerely,
Wendy Wallin

[REDACTED]

Email

Phone

[REDACTED]



751 have signed. Let's get to 1,000!



Wendy Wallin signed this petition



Dome lids a death sentence for wildlife

Waste Reduction and Recycling (Plastic Items) ~~Assembly~~ ~~Bill~~ ~~2021~~

CATHY MOORE

catherine.moore@news.com.au

A DECEPTION BAY man has captured a "distressing photo" which has prompted his sister to start a petition calling for plastic dome lids to be banned.

Wendy Wallin said the image of a native corolla with its head stuck in a plastic lid (pictured)



"spoke volumes".

"I wonder how many other birds, reptiles, marine life and small creatures are suffering the same cruel fate in silence and fear that we don't see," Ms Wallin said.

"This little bird obviously took a drink from a discarded takeaway drink container and got his head caught in the plastic dome lid as he pulled back.

"Imagine the terror of that moment.

"The distressing photo was captured in a friend's garden.

"On my daily walks, I often find littered on my local beach, hazardous fishing line and deadly discarded takeaway containers, including these plastic dome lid nooses and many solid ring seals from under plastic caps.

"The risk doesn't only lie in these nooses being trapped around the neck of a poor creature, they also resemble jelly fish in the water. These items are lethal to all wildlife.

"Not only are they a death sentence, it would be a painfully slow horrible starvation or choking death."

Ms Wallin had reached just under 800 signatures at the time of print and has a goal of reaching more than



Wendy Wallin wants plastic dome lids banned.

PICTURE: AAP/JONO SEARLE

YOUR SAY

■ **Barry Tuton:** Any plastic that is left lying around our beaches and not disposed of properly is a death sentence to our marine and bird life. If you can't find a bin, take it home with you.

■ **Cherylee Cook:** Many people just don't seem to care and use our countryside as a tip.

■ **Gaye Hufnagle:** If only people would did the right thing and disposed of them the way they are supposed to

various plastic things, including those dome lids, stuck around birds' necks," Mr Redman said.

Mr Redman said birds that wound up with their heads stuck in plastic lids or rings would often die as a result of the litter.

"We have been through the council straw ban and we will hopefully move on to banning plastic cups and lids too," he said.

"I definitely support the petition."

To sign the petition visit <http://chng.it/w82TGW9TDp>

1000. Redcliffe Environmental Forum vice president Geoffrey Redman said he supported the petition to ban plastic dome lids.

"It's a common issue to see

Share your thoughts. Email editorial@redcliffeherald.com.au



Log In



Sunshine Coast Daily

1 July 2019 at 03:30 ·

A "distressing photo" prompted Wendy Wallin to rally up support behind a ban of a particular type of lid used for takeaway drinks, labelling them a "death sentence" to wildlife. Do you think takeaway lids should be banned?



SUNSHINECOASTDAILY.COM.AU

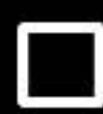
Call to ban 'death sentence' lids



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URGENT - DRAFT Plastic Laws in Queensland Parliament

Wendy Wallin <wendy_wallin@hotmail.com>

Fri 4/09/2020 9:02 AM

To: Algester Electorate Office <algester@parliament.qld.gov.au>

Cc: Bancroft Electorate Office <bancroft@parliament.qld.gov.au>; Shane Cucow [REDACTED] Jeff - Boomerang Alliance [REDACTED] marie sarieant [REDACTED]

Megan-Info [REDACTED] Howarth, Luke (MP)

Mayor

; The Premier

Farrer Electorate (S. Ley, MP)

WWF Plastic Campaign [REDACTED]

WWF-Australia [REDACTED]

; Evans, Trevor

(MP) [REDACTED]

 5 attachments (1 MB)

Corella Closeup.jpg; JZqpaoBEVtNmMuk-800x450-noPad.jpg; mms_img35898591 (1).jpg; Screenshot_20200613-095151.png; Corella & Dome Lids.jpeg;

Dear Minister Enoch,

Time is running out to include these deadly, and in the case of Dome Lids, totally unnecessary single-use plastics.

Again I beg you to please read the below email trail or my full Petition <http://chnng.it/w82TGW9TDp> for my suggestions and alternatives to these plastic deathtraps.

Many times over the past 18 months of my campaign I've felt defeated, like no one is listening. Your Government has the power to make change & hopefully the rest of the country will follow. What keeps me going is that I can't unsee the dire predicament this little Corella found himself in due to human convenience, consumerism & lack of conscience.

As a proud Queenslander myself, it would be wonderful if Queensland were the first State to BAN Takeaway Dome Lids forever. Will you please include these in the current draft legislation before it's too late?

DOMES LIDS can only be cut with scissors. Dome Lids can not be torn with hands. Dome Lids are a DEATH sentence to all wildlife. Dome Lids do nothing to enhance the drinking experience. Dome Lids are totally unnecessary.

I recognise that Plastic Ring Seals (also 100% unbreakable & deadly) will require a longer timeline and a lot of attention to ban as they are used on a tremendous number of products, but, Dome Lids are totally unnecessary and can simply be BANNED NOW.

Please add Plastic Takeaway Dome Lids to the Draft Single-use Plastics Plan before it becomes Queensland Parliament Legislation. This must be done now... Please.

In kindness and gratitude,
Wendy (Wallin)
Deception Bay
Phone [REDACTED]

Sent from my Sony Xperia™ smartphone

---- Wendy Wallin wrote ----

Dear Minister Enoch,

Congratulations on the draft plan to reduce the plastic plague, however, please include Plastic Dome Drink Lids in the first wave of bans. I've attached an email trail for your information.

Please read <http://chnng.it/w82TGW9TDp>

Kind regards and thank you,
Wendy (Wallin)

Sent from my Sony Xperia™ smartphone

----- Original Message -----

Subject: Re: Update: Plastics Laws in QLD Parliament!

Sent: 30 Jul. 2020 3:30 pm

From: [REDACTED]

To: [REDACTED]

Cc:

Hi Wendy,

Thanks for reaching out! And for being such a powerful advocate for wildlife.

I couldn't agree more on those plastics you mention. AMCS has been pushing in formal submissions to the government on the development of these laws, for the elimination of plastic cups, bottles etc. Particularly things like those dome lids you mention are dangerous because of that entrapment and injury risk.

Government is pushing back hard at the moment, feeling that they don't want to burden businesses with too many banned plastics with the first wave of plastics banned. However we don't think that's good enough and we're continuing to push for meetings and to present them with evidence of the harm.

The good news is that once the state governments introduce the laws, they will have created a way to add more plastics to the bans without having to pass new laws.

We will be committed to campaigning to introduce more plastics to the laws - even if we don't get all the killer plastics included in the first wave.

I promise we will keep fighting alongside you, campaigning to get rid of every killer plastic hurting our ocean wildlife.

Kind regards



Shane Cuow

Plastics Spokesperson

Australian Marine Conservation Society

Please note I do not work on Fridays

p: [REDACTED]

f: [07 3846 6788](tel:0738466788)

a: PO Box 5815 West End QLD 4101

w: www.marineconservation.org.au e: [REDACTED]



Help protect our ocean wildlife. Become a [Sea Guardian](#) today

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Wendy Wallin** [REDACTED]
Date: Fri, Jul 24, 2020 at 11:36 AM
Subject: Update: Plastics Laws in QLD Parliament!
To: [REDACTED]

Dear Shane,

<http://chnng.it/w82TGW9TDp> Wonderful news, however, I wish these items were included too... Plastic Takeaway Dome & Flat Drink Lids & Plastic Ring Seals. The cruel & lethal DOME LID nooses are rife in the fast food industry & KILLING wildlife.

The Government need to enforce regulations on Supermarkets and the Fast Food & Cafe Industries to make ethical choices. I started my petition in April 2019. I've sent hundreds of emails to Politicians (Local, State & Federal), Media & Environment Groups but have failed to gain consistent momentum.

No one is listening to me about these specific items. There's still time if the Law is still in its DRAFT phase. Can you help to get them included in the ban PLEASE?

SUMMARY of my Recommendations/Solutions in order of preference:

Plastic Dome Drink Lids (All sizes)

1. Abolish this plastic product IMMEDIATELY (Dome lids kill wildlife).
2. Use a flat lid instead, made of recycled biodegradable cardboard, with NO straw hole at all. Surely people can remove a flat lid if a "re-usable" metal straw or spoon is required.
3. Use a flat lid instead, made of recycled biodegradable cardboard, with four perforations crisscrossing the centre hole so it separates easily under duress.
4. A deeper cup be used if room is needed for toppings or cream (e.g. iced coffee) and the flat lid removed for a "re-usable" metal straw or spoon.

Plastic Ring Seals (All sizes from under Softdrink, Juice, Milk, Vitamin and Medicine caps etc)

1. Abolish this plastic product IMMEDIATELY (Plastic Ring Seals strangle wildlife).
2. Manufacture from recycled biodegradable cardboard, with four perforations crisscrossing the solid ring seal, so it snaps when twisted open.
3. Substitute rings with cardboard/foil inner seal type under the tamper-proof (child-proof) screw top caps.
4. Replace the need for plastic ring seals by using air-tight metal lids.
5. Replace rings with the tear-off plastic strip/band type cap (tears off in a single line) in lieu of the unbreakable ring seal.

Flat Plastic Takeaway Drink Lids (All sizes)

1. Abolish this plastic product IMMEDIATELY (The holes in these lids can be torn to a larger diameter and trap wildlife).
2. Manufacture from recycled biodegradable cardboard with NO straw hole at all. Surely people

can remove a flat lid if a "re-usable" metal straw or spoon is required.

3. Manufacture from recycled biodegradable cardboard, with four perforations crisscrossing the centre hole, so it separates easily under duress.

ALL Plastic Dome/Flat Lids and Plastic Ring Seals (All sizes)

1. The current style of lethal plastic dome/flat lids and plastic ring seals should have four perforations crisscrossing the centre, so they separate under duress (or, in the case of ring seals, snap when twisted open) until all are PHASED out completely, and replaced with another environmentally friendly alternative (e.g. recycled biodegradable cardboard).
2. In the meantime, educate people to care, and cut these items in half after consumption before disposal in a bin.
3. Enforce mandatory laws that manufacturers face stringent regulations and seek approval from an Environmental Consultant before these products hit the market.
4. As an extra incentive to replace these disposable plastic products with cardboard, businesses could have their store logo imprinted on the lid.
5. Sadly we can't change some people's abhorrent behaviour, but we can reduce the impact on the earth's innocent and vulnerable wildlife by producing ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY products.

STOP THE CRUELTY. Let's give our wildlife a fighting chance and remove these deathtraps, especially the plastic dome lids and plastic ring seals from production and circulation IMMEDIATELY.

"Compassion, in which all ethics must take root, can only attain its full breadth and depth if it embraces all living creatures and does not limit itself to mankind"

Dr Albert Schweitzer ([1875-1965](#))

Philosopher, Theologian and Medical Missionary

Thank you for all you do.

Kindest regards,
Wendy (Wallin)

Sent from my Sony Xperia™ smartphone

---- Shane Cuow, AMCS wrote ----

Dear Wendy,

July has proven to be a big month in the fight against killer plastics.

In the last week, the [Queensland Government has tabled draft laws in Parliament that would ban single-use plastic straws, cutlery, drink stirrers, plates and bowls!](#)

We have received news that the Queensland Government received

almost 20,000 submissions - **and 94% of public submissions were in favour of these laws.** That level of support is virtually unheard of! And it's all thanks to you.

Wendy, thank you for signing our petition and contacting the governments of Australia to support these critical laws. Because you showed them you want our leaders to save Australia's ocean wildlife, they are finally taking action.

Right now, Queensland and South Australia are competing to become the first state to ban these killer plastics.

When will the laws pass?

Over the last few weeks, I have been watching politicians debate these laws in the SA and QLD Parliaments. One thing has been abundantly clear - politicians know that the we, the public, expect them to act.

The laws in both jurisdictions could come to a vote as early as September, allowing the plastic bans to come into effect next year. We'll keep you posted as the debate on the laws progress.

What happens now

All eyes are on Queensland and South Australia.

NSW, Victoria, WA and other jurisdictions are all waiting to see what happens before they move to act.

It is absolutely vital that we keep up the pressure and see these laws passed. And thanks to you,

**we are already hard at work on
the next wave of the campaign.**

As we speak, our new Plastic Free Champion Action Packs are at the printers, soon to be sent to local councils across Australia. These powerful packs will inspire community members and local businesses to join the campaign - pressuring all State and Territory governments to act.

Our education and social media campaign is also in full swing, helping people learn about the dangers of plastic for Australia's ocean wildlife and how to get involved.

Together, we will ramp up the momentum and ensure 2020 becomes the historic year we started banning killer plastics like straws and cutlery in Australia.

Thanks for all you do for our oceans.

Shane Cucow

Plastics Campaign Manager
Australian Marine Conservation Society



Australian Marine Conservation Society
4/145 Melbourne Street, South Brisbane, QLD 4101

Email us: [REDACTED]

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CTS No. 16691/20 - Letter from the Office of the Minister for Environment and the Great Barrier Reef, Minister for Science and Minister for the Arts

Wendy Wallin <wendy_wallin@hotmail.com>

Thu 17/09/2020 11:27 AM

To: Corro DES Min and DG [REDACTED]

Cc: Ricki Hershburgh [REDACTED]

📎 3 attachments (121 KB)

Corella & Dome Lids.jpeg; no lid thank you7.jpg; Cut with Scissors.jpg;

Dear Sir/Madam,

Thank you for your reply, however I respectfully disagree that you can't ban Plastic Dome Lids now. I refer to the following paragraph in your response.

*On 15 July 2020, the Queensland Government introduced a Bill into Parliament to **ban the supply and sale of single-use plastic straws, stirrers, cutlery and plates**. These items are consistently in the top ten littered items in state, national and international litter surveys, and are largely unable to be recovered for recycling through mainstream collection systems. **These products are being considered first as there are readily available alternatives, and in many cases, their use can be avoided in the first place.***

In answer to your statement I've highlighted in green...

Readily available alternatives to DEADLY Plastic Dome Lids are EXISTING Plastic Flat Lids, which at least, being made of flexible plastic, can be torn with hands (giving wildlife a chance of escape). Dome Lids use can be totally avoided in the first place as they are completely unnecessary to drink a drink. Dome Lids can only be cut with scissors and as such are deadly to wildlife.

So, once again, I ask that Plastic Dome Lids are included in the Draft Bill to Parliament to Ban Single-Use Plastics now.

Thank You,
Wendy (Wallin)

Phone [REDACTED]

From: Corro DES Min and DG [REDACTED]

Sent: Thursday, 17 September 2020 9:41 AM

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: CTS No. 16691/20 - Letter from the Office of the Minister for Environment and the Great Barrier Reef, Minister for Science and Minister for the Arts

Good morning

On behalf of the Office of the Minister for Environment and the Great Barrier Reef, Minister for Science and Minister for the Arts, please find attached a letter in response to your correspondence.

Due to the current environment, we are transitioning to a paper-light workplace, therefore please note the original will not be posted, unless otherwise requested.

Kind regards

Executive Correspondence Unit

Department of Environment and Science

Executive Correspondence Unit
Department of Environment and Science
www.des.qld.gov.au

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Waste Reduction and Recycling (Plastic Items) Amendment Bill 2020 Submission No. 001





SAY "NO LID, THANKS"

