



Great Lakes-St. Lawrence
Legislative Caucus

2019 Annual Meeting of the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Legislative Caucus

*Chicago, Illinois
September 13-14, 2019*

Resolution Urging the Federal Government to Fund Research on Microplastics in the Environment

- WHEREAS,** microplastics are pieces of plastic that are less than five millimeters in size which can result from the disposal and breakdown of products and industrial waste containing plastics; and
- WHEREAS,** the majority of plastics in the United States are not recycled; and
- WHEREAS,** recent studies have shown that microplastics are pervasive in the environment; and
- WHEREAS,** microplastics are easily ingested by plankton and filter feeding animals and are found in many species of wildlife including fish and shellfish; and
- WHEREAS,** microplastics have been found in bottled water and other consumer products intended for human consumption; and
- WHEREAS,** microplastics have been found in human stools; and
- WHEREAS,** scientists still know little about the effects of microplastics on the human body or on wildlife; and
- WHEREAS,** water resources, including drinking water, and soils and sediments are rarely tested or monitored for microplastics; and
- WHEREAS,** questions still remain as to the sources of microplastics in the environment, including the contributions from wastewater treatment facilities; and



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WHEREAS, research is needed to understand the impacts of microplastics on the environment and human health and to develop testing and monitoring protocols; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Legislative Caucus urges the United States Environmental Protection Agency to increase research efforts on microplastics; and be it further

RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be sent to President Donald Trump, Attorney General William Barr, and all members of Congress.

Adopted on September 14, 2019.