*Phone Script or Email Template for Ban on Foam*

* Look up the contact information for your state representatives here: <http://www.mdelect.net>.
* Hi, my name is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, and I live at \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* (Optional) I am also a member of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ congregation.
* I am calling to express my strong support of the Maryland Ban on Polystyrene Food Containers, House Bill [Fill in once this is determined] and Senate Bill [Fill in once this is determined].
* *(technically you could stop right here…you don’t need to explain why you support it)*
* I strongly believe that the earth is good and that we need to preserve its environment and be good caretakers of its resources.
* [If your congregation has done away with Foam food containers, please add your story to this letter.]
* God calls us to continually renew ourselves, improve our behaviors, and be open to new ways of doing things that are more mindful of future generations. This is important legislation that would move Maryland in a positive direction.
* Foam packaging may be convenient and cheap for food services, but when it is discarded it becomes an eyesore in our woods, fields, streams and streets. This non-biodegradable material persists indefinitely in the environment.
* Polystyrene never breaks down, but breaks *up* into increasingly small particles that absorb toxics due to their carbon-based makeup. Fish and wildlife consume the pieces mistaking it for food. This bioaccumulation of toxicity is a risk to the food chain.
* Polystyrene is a polymer plastic derived from petroleum. Its production uses non-renewable resources and contributes to atmospheric pollution.
* There are perfectly good packaging alternatives available now, that are lightweight, biodegradable, safe for consumers and have good insulating properties to keep food and drinks warm or cold.
* Thank you for taking the time to listen to my concerns.

“See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?

I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in a wasteland.”

Isaiah 43: 16-21