



## **Building a Sustainable CSS Future**

*April 15th, 2018*

**WHEREAS**, the lifecycle of paper and plastic bags require energy, create waste, cause greenhouse gas emissions, and produce air and water pollution;

**WHEREAS**, an estimated 20 million pounds of plastics enter the Great Lakes annually;

**WHEREAS**, 80% of all marine debris found in the ocean is land based, and 80-90% of the marine debris is made from plastic;

**WHEREAS**, plastic straws are among the top 10 marine plastic debris found during coastal cleanups;

**WHEREAS**, it is estimated that greater than 50% reduction in carry-out bag related global warming emissions can be achieved through the elimination of single use carry-out bags;

**WHEREAS**, according to the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency and the Western Lake Superior Sanitary District waste hierarchy, it is preferentially better to reduce, reuse and then recycle and to avoid land disposal altogether; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Saints Shop unnecessarily wastes precious financial resources by spending over \$2,000 on disposable single use plastic bags in the Saints Shop alone;

**WHEREAS**, a multitude of cities across the United States, such as Washington, D.C., the State of California and countries such as the United Kingdom have adopted zero waste policies with demonstrated environmental benefit;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that The College of St. Scholastica's (CSS) Student Senate calls for a phase out of all plastic single use carry out bags provided by the Saints Shop and/or any current or future campus retail stores ; and, be it

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the CSS Student Senate requests adoption of no less than a minimum \$0.10 charge for all other single use carry out bags provided a point of sale on campus retail establishments; and, be it

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, the CSS Student Senate appeals for the rapid phase out all single use plastic straws provided by on campus dining centers and food retailers; and, be it

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the CSS Student Senate advocates for adoption of these policies no later than the start of class Fall 2018 Semester; and, be it

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, that CSS Student Senate will forward this Resolution “Building a Sustainable CSS Future” be to the Director of Dining Services and the Chief Financial Officer.

St. Scholastica Student Senate