

EPS Resolution

Carnegie Mellon University Undergraduate Student Senate

March 1, 2018

*Sponsor: Devin Gund, Student Senate Vice Chair
On Behalf of the Staff Council at Carnegie Mellon University*



Be it enacted by the Student Senate assembled,

WHEREAS, the Carnegie Mellon University Undergraduate Student Senate (“Student Senate”) wishes to support the Strategic Plan 2025 (“Strategic Plan”) Value for Sustainability, the Staff Council at Carnegie Mellon University (“Staff Council”), sustainable practices on campus, and the Carnegie Mellon University (“Carnegie Mellon”) community; and

WHEREAS, Carnegie Mellon has recognized its responsibility, through the Strategic Plan, to protect the natural environment, economy, and the health of its campus community; and

WHEREAS, expanded polystyrene foam (“EPS”), commonly referred to as styrofoam, is an environmental pollutant that is commonly used as food packaging brought into the university from vendors, faculty, staff, and students; and

WHEREAS, due to the physical properties of EPS, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency states “such materials can have serious impacts upon human health, wildlife, and aquatic environment, and the economy”; and

WHEREAS, EPS packaging and food service ware cannot be recycled through the Carnegie Mellon recycling collection program and is otherwise difficult or impossible to recycle, and not compostable; and

WHEREAS, the Staff Council enacted a Resolution on April 13, 2017 (“Staff Council Resolution”) attesting to the above and strongly encouraging the Carnegie Mellon community to eliminate the use of EPS.

RESOLVED, on this 1st day of March, 2018, that the Student Senate:

1. Endorses the Staff Council Resolution to eliminate the use of EPS;
2. Strongly encourages the Carnegie Mellon community to eliminate the use of EPS;
3. Directs the Student Senate Executive Committee and Sergeant-at-Arms to eliminate the use of EPS for all meetings of the Student Senate and its Committees.

Attested: Carnegie Mellon University Undergraduate Student Senate