



**Embrace Advocacy for
Every Child**

Did you know?

- There are more than 100 NYS municipalities that limit the use of single-use polystyrene
- Polystyrene contains highly toxic substances including Benzene and Styrene, which are suspected carcinogens and neurotoxins harmful to humans and animals
- Hot food and liquids can start the breakdown of polystyrene products, allowing toxins to enter food and liquids we consume
- Polystyrene can take upwards of 500 years to breakdown in landfills
- The EPA has identified polystyrene as the 5th largest creator of hazardous waste in the US

Ban the use of Polystyrene

Since 1989, NYS PTA has sought legislation that would ban or phase out the use of polystyrene (Styrofoam) products at all state and public school facilities until infrastructure is in place to recycle these products in an environmentally safe manner.

- We continue to seek these changes, and also fully support the Executive's proposal to prohibit the distribution and use of expanded polystyrene single-use food containers and packaging materials by January 1, 2022.
- This proposal would also ban the distribution and use of expanded polystyrene foam containers used for prepared foods or beverages served by food service establishments, and ban the sale of polystyrene loose-fill packaging, commonly known as packing peanuts.
- We continue to seek infrastructure to recycle these products in an environmentally safe manner and urge local municipalities to issue their own ban or phase-out plan of polystyrene products.

For more information, please contact Kyle McCauley Belokopitsky, Esq., NYS PTA Executive Director at execdirector@nyspta.org, 518-452-8808