



Student Assembly

Resolution 27: Implementing the Cup Return Project

Abstract: This resolution seeks to implement the Cup Return Project, a plan to introduce reusable cups to Cornell Dining Retail locations.

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Sponsored by: Riley Smith '28, Lydia Blum '27, Lorenz Mammen grad

Reviewed by: Name of Committee, MM/DD/YYYY

Type of Action: Recommendation

Originally Presented: MM/DD/YYYY

Current Status: Current Status (e.g. "Second Reading Calendar")

Whereas, on November 17, 2025, Lorenz Mammen grad and the Cornell Residential Sustainability Leaders (RSLs) presented the first version of the Cup Return Project proposal to the Student Assembly Dining Services Committee,

Whereas, on February 2, 2026, Mr. Mammen and the RSLs presented the committee with an updated version of the Cup Return Project proposal,

Whereas, the Return Cup Project provides a plan to transition to reusable cups at Cornell Dining retail locations (Libe Café, Novick's, etc.), similar to the Fill it Forward program at dining halls,

Whereas, Cornell's RSLs have been in discussion with several potential providers of reusable cups,

Whereas, Cornell's RSLs have identified Vytal as the most promising potential provider of reusable cups,

Whereas, Cornell has the infrastructure in place for such a deposit and return program with the Fill it Forward program and the GET Mobile App,

Be it therefore resolved, that the Student Assembly calls on Cornell University to become the first university in the United States to implement a full reusable cup program at on-campus retail locations,

Be it further resolved, that Cornell Dining enter into discussions with potential providers, as outlined in the Return Cup project proposal,



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29 **Be it finally resolved,** that Cornell begin the process of implementing a reusable cup program
30 with a pilot program at a limited number of locations.

31 Respectfully Submitted,

32 Ezra Galperin '27

33 Chair of the Dining Services Committee, *Student Assembly*

34 Riley Smith '28

35 Chair of the Sustainability Working Group, Dining Services Committee, *Student Assembly*

36 Lorenz Mammen grad

37 Member, Dining Services Committee, *Student Assembly*

38 Lydia Blum '27

39 College of Agriculture and Life Sciences Representative, *Student Assembly*