



Student Assembly

1 Resolution 27: Implementing the Cup Return 2 Project

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

5 **Authored by:** Ezra Galperin '27

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

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

8 **Type of Action:** Recommendation

9 **Originally Presented:** MM/DD/YYYY

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

27 **Be it further resolved**, that Cornell Dining enter into discussions with potential providers, as
28 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,

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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*