



Cities & Counties Encouraged to Temporarily Suspend Enforcement of Plastic Bag Ban

As a result of recent conversations between the office of Governor Kate Brown, the Northwest Grocery Association and local governments, the League of Oregon Cities and Association of Oregon Counties has been asked to convey a request for cities, counties and the state to consider temporarily suspending enforcement of the ban on certain plastic bags.

HB 2509 was enacted during the 2019 legislative session. The bill prohibits restaurants and retail establishments, including grocery stores, from using certain non-reusable plastic bags and requires retail establishments to charge a minimum of five cents for paper bags and reusable bags.

Due to the high volume of customers at grocery stores, some stores are experiencing limited supplies of paper bags and reusable bags. During this state of emergency, grocery stores may need to utilize thinner plastic bags due to supply shortages. Those tasked with the enforcement of HB 2509, including cities, counties and the state, are encouraged to take these circumstances into consideration and are further encouraged to consider temporarily suspending enforcement activities, including the issuing of penalties for the use of plastic bags. **Oregonians are encouraged to limit their use and safely dispose of non-reusable plastic bags through the trash and are reminded that these bags should not be placed in curbside recycling bins.**

For questions, please contact:

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