1
2 **AN ACT TO**: Ban single use carryout bags in New York State.
3 **The People of the State of New York, represented in the**
4 **Senate and Assembly do enact as follows:**
5
6 **PURPOSE:**
7 The purpose of this of this bill is to ban single use carryout bags in New York State.
8
9 **SUMMARY OF PROVISIONS**
10 Section 1:
11 (1)   production–the action of making or manufacturing from components or raw materials, or the process of being
12 so manufactured.
13 (2)   contamination–the action or state of making or being made impure by polluting and/or poisoning
14 (3)   plastic–a synthetic material made from a wide range of organic polymers such as polyethylene, PVC, nylon, etc.,
15 that can be molded into shape while soft and then set into a rigid or slightly elastic form.
16 (4)   retail stores– a place of business usually owned and operated by a retailer but sometimes owned and operated
17 by a manufacturer or by someone other than a retailer in which merchandise is sold primarily to ultimate consumers.
18 (5)   bulk–the mass or magnitude of something large
19 (6)   pollution–the presence in or introduction into the environment of a substance or thing that has harmful or
20 poisonous effects.
21 (7)   prohibit–formally forbid a person or group from doing something.
22 (8)   exemptions–the process of freeing or state of being free from an obligation or liability imposed on others.
23
24 Section 2:
25 The law prohibits all retailers, including but not limited to: grocery stores, large retail stores with a pharmacy, and
26 convenience stores, and stores that sell food from providing customers with bags designed for a single use, unless the
27 bags are made with recycled paper. Stores must instead provide customers with reusable grocery bags or with recycled
28 paper bags and must charge at least ten cents for each bag.
29
30 **JUSTIFICATION:**
31   Humans have produced 8.3 billion tons of plastic since the start of plastic production six decades ago. Of that,
32 6.3 billion tons has become plastic waste. Only about 9% of that plastic is recycled
33 (https://news.nationalgeographic.com/2017/07/plastic-produced-recycling-waste-ocean-trash-debris-environment/).
34 We use over 380 billion plastic bags and wraps yearly, requiring 12 million barrels of oil to create
35 (https://blog.epa.gov/blog/tag/plastic-bags/). By putting this ban into effect, we set the example for the the entire
36 country to follow suit, and protect our oceans and great lakes from the pollution. Plastic is getting into our great lakes
37 and polluting our drinking water. The great lakes hold 21% of our world's surface fresh water by volume. Exemptions
38 to this ban include bags used by pharmacies for prescriptions, bags without handles used to protect a purchased item
39 from damage or contamination, and bags used to contain unwrapped food items like bulk foods. In addition, bags
40 without handles that are designed to be placed over articles of clothing on a hanger, such as dry cleaning bags.

ALLIANCE OF NEW YORK STATE YMCAs
YOUTH AND GOVERNMENT
Legislative Bill

Bill # 6

Referred to Committee:
6

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Action on the Bill

Assembly	Senate
____ ☐ Passed	____ ☐ Passed
____ ☐ Defeated	____ ☐ Defeated

1
2 <u>**Fiscal Implications**</u>:
3 This bill will have no cost for the state. The state will lose no money, but will also gain no money. Businesses can charge
4 more than ten cents to cover the twenty cent cost of recyclable paper bags (https://www.uline.com)
5
6 <u>**Effective Date:**</u>
7 This bill will go into effect twelve months after passing to give affected retailers time to comply with the bill's
8 requirements.
9