

Room 521, City Hall 100 N. Holliday Street Baltimore, Maryland 21202 Office: 410-396-4818 Fax: 410-396-4828

BILL NO: House Bill 0209, Senate Bill 313

TITLE: Plastics and Packaging Reduction Act

COMMITTEE: Environment and Transportation and Economic Matters

POSITION: SUPPORT

This bill would ban plastic bags from distribution by stores at the point of sale and require stores to charge at least 10 cents for each paper bag or reusable carryout bag for sale.

I stand in support of this bill introduced by Delegate Lierman and Senator Augustine for the reasons listed below, but above all to move forward in creating a trash free city that is welcoming for all residents and visitors. In addition, I support this legislation because:

- It will ensure that consumers only pay for what they need if they do not need a paper bag, they will not need to buy one
- It will clean up our waterways and the Bay
- It will hold retailers harmless so that they continue to operate and expand food access to all neighborhoods, including under-resourced neighborhoods
- It will save residents, local governments, and businesses money spent on clean up and trash disposal

For all these reasons I stand in support of HB 0209 and SB 0313 and encourage the committee to vote the bill favorably.

Sincerely,

Kristerfer Burnett

City Councilmen District 8, Baltimore City