

HB 505 -- PLASTIC BAG REDUCTION ACT

SPONSOR: Nichols

This bill creates the Plastic Bag Reduction Act, which, beginning January 1, 2016, prohibits retail establishments from using, distributing, or selling any single-use, disposable, non-recyclable plastic carryout bags to its customers. An establishment may sell or distribute recyclable, reusable, compostable, or biodegradable carryout bags to customers at the point of sale. If the establishment sells the qualified bags, they may charge a maximum of 10 cents per bag and the fee is waived for customers using an EBT card.

A customer may use any type of bags that they bring to the store themselves.

A city, county, city and county, or state may impose civil penalties of no more than \$10,000 for each day a retail establishment violates the act. These penalties will be paid to the Attorney General and distributed annually to the schools of the county in which the violation or violations occurred.