



**Testimony by City of Wilsonville Mayor Tim Knapp Supporting HB 2509-A13:**

***Proposed Legislation Ends Usage of Single-Use Retail Plastic Checkout Bags and Creates Uniform Standards Statewide***

Scheduled for public hearing on April 22, 2019,  
before the House Committee on Rules

**Chair Holvey, Vice-Chairs Williamson and Wilson, and Members of the Committee:**

On behalf of the City of Wilsonville City Council, I am testifying in support of HB 2509-A13. While Wilsonville like most cities prefers to maintain local decision-making authority, discontinuing the usage of single-use retail plastic checkout bags appears to make more sense on a statewide basis, rather than on a community-by-community basis.

The City understands that the business community by and large would prefer a uniform, standard set of rules that apply throughout the state. A consistent, standard method of conducting business is preferable for business operations with multiple retail locations than conforming to a hodge-podge of various rules across the state.


Consumers too will benefit by having a consistent, standard process when shopping anywhere in Oregon. The environment and solid-waste and recycling processes will also benefit from a reduction in the generation and disposal of single-use plastic checkout bags.

The City is pleased to that the A-Engrossed version avoids preemption of existing municipal ordinances by providing that a local government can allow a restaurant or retail establishment to charge a fee that is less than the fee established in the bill as a statewide fee (5 cents) if the local government charged that lesser fee prior to the effective date of the Act.

The proposed amendment (-A13) provides that a local government may adopt, amend or enforce a local provision to require a restaurant or retail establishment to charge a fee of more than five cents. Essentially, this means that a jurisdiction cannot allow a fee that is less than 5 cents, but could require a fee that is more than 5 cents, thereby in effect setting a statewide floor/minimum. Again, Wilsonville is pleased that the legislature is not preempting local government authority should a community's businesses need a fee greater than 5 cents to recoup additional costs for using or providing bags other than single-use retail plastic checkout bags.

The City of Wilsonville respectfully urges a DO PASS vote on HB 2509-A13. Thank you.

Sincerely,

  
Tim Knapp, Mayor  
City of Wilsonville