



AGENDA ITEM NO.

COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

For the meeting of: January 27, 2015

Date: January 22, 2015

To: Board of Supervisors

From: Phillip Smith-Hanes, County Administrative Officer *PSH*

Subject: Resolution Regarding Commitment to Reducing Environmental Impacts of Single-Use Plastic Bags

RECOMMENDATION(S):

That the Board of Supervisors adopts the attached resolution regarding commitment to reducing the environmental impacts of single-use plastic bags.

SOURCE OF FUNDING: N/A

DISCUSSION:

On January 6, 2015, the Board of Supervisors heard an update from the County Administrative Officer regarding a popular referendum challenging implementation of Senate Bill 270 (2014), regarding a statewide ban on single-use plastic bags. At that time, the Board directed staff to return with a resolution supporting voluntary reduction in plastic bag usage pending the implementation of a statewide ban.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

There is no financial impact to adopting the resolution. This action supports the Board's strategic

Prepared by Phillip Smith-Hanes CAO Approval *Amy N Olsen*

REVIEW:	Auditor _____	County Counsel <u>WBC</u>	Human Resources _____	Other _____
---------	---------------	---------------------------	-----------------------	-------------

TYPE OF ITEM:

Consent

Departmental

Public Hearing

Other _____

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

Upon motion of Supervisor _____

Seconded by Supervisor _____

Ayes _____

Nays _____

Abstain _____

Absent _____

PREVIOUS ACTION/REFERRAL:

Board Order No. M-1

Meeting of: 1/6/15

and carried by those members present, the Board hereby approves the recommended action contained in this Board report.

Dated: _____

By: _____

Kathy Hayes, Clerk of the Board

framework, priorities for new initiatives, by making a proactive decision to be an effective voice for the community in areas outside traditional mandates through advancing local interests in natural resource discussions.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT: None.

ALTERNATIVES TO STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS: Board's discretion.

ATTACHMENTS: Resolution.

RESOLUTION NO. _____

**RESOLUTION OF THE HUMBOLDT COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
REGARDING COMMITMENT TO REDUCING ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS OF
SINGLE-USE PLASTIC BAGS**

WHEREAS, the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors first considered the issues posed by single-use plastic bags on November 2, 2010; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors has been steadfast since that time in its desire to see the environmental impacts attributed to single-use plastic bags reduced; and

WHEREAS, the Humboldt County community has long been known as a leader in environmental protection and many local retail outlets have voluntarily implemented programs to reduce usage of single-use plastic bags; and

WHEREAS, the City of Arcata, along with more than 100 other local jurisdictions throughout California, implemented bans on single-use plastic bags; and

WHEREAS, Humboldt County recognizes that statewide uniformity of regulation reduces costs of compliance for retailers, and therefore the county had included support for a statewide approach to single-use plastic bags in its legislative advocacy efforts; and

WHEREAS, due to inaction at the state level the Board of Supervisors had directed staff to begin work on an ordinance to ban single-use plastic bags in the unincorporated areas of the county; and

WHEREAS, during the 2014 legislative session Senate Bill (SB) 270 was passed by the California Legislature and signed into law by Governor Brown; and

WHEREAS, SB 270 provides for a statewide ban on single-use plastic bags at grocery stores and pharmacies effective in July 2015 and at convenience and liquor stores in July 2016; and

WHEREAS, SB 270 has now been challenged in a statewide referendum and its implementation may be delayed until after the statewide general election in 2016; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors remains committed to the reduction of environmental impacts, the support of a statewide approach to single-use plastic bags, and the importance of voluntary reduction in usage of single-use plastic bags;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

1. The Humboldt County Board of Supervisors encourages all county residents to avoid usage of single-use plastic bags when possible.
2. The Humboldt County Board of Supervisors expresses its support for

implementation of SB 270 and urges voters to consider the environmental impact of single-use plastic bags if a referendum appears on the 2016 ballot.

- 3. Pending the implementation of SB 270, the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors urges all businesses within the unincorporated area of the county to implement measures to reduce the usage of single-use plastic bags by their customers.
- 4. If SB 270 is overturned by referendum, the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors intends to revisit the issue of a ban on single-use plastic bags in the unincorporated area of the county. The Board intends to evaluate the effectiveness of voluntary measures to reduce usage of single-use plastic bags in determining whether a ban is necessary.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Certified copy of portion of proceedings, Meeting on

ESTELLE FENNELL, Chair of the Board

Adopted on motion by Supervisor _____, Seconded by Supervisor _____, and the following vote:

- AYES:
- NAYS:
- ABSENT:
- ABSTAIN:

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
County of Humboldt)

I, KATHY HAYES, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors, County of Humboldt, State of California, do hereby certify the foregoing to be a full, true, and correct copy of the original made in the above-entitled matter by said Board of Supervisors at a meeting held in Eureka, California as the same now appears of record in my Office.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Seal of said Board of Supervisors.

KATHY HAYES
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of
the County of Humboldt, State of California