

5954

2015-2016 Regular Sessions

I N A S S E M B L Y

March 9, 2015

Introduced by M. of A. KAVANAGH -- read once and referred to the Committee on Environmental Conservation

AN ACT to amend the environmental conservation law, in relation to the recycling of plastic carryout bags and film plastic

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1 Section 1. Subdivision 6 of section 27-2701 of the environmental  
2 conservation law, as added by chapter 641 of the laws of 2008, is  
3 amended to read as follows:

4 6. "Store" means a retail establishment that provides plastic carryout  
5 bags to its customers as a result of the sale of a product and (a) has  
6 over ten thousand square feet of retail space OR, IN A CITY WITH A POPU-  
7 LATION OF ONE MILLION OR MORE, HAS OVER FIVE THOUSAND SQUARE FEET OF  
8 RETAIL SPACE, or (b) such retail establishment is part of a chain  
9 engaged in the same general field of business [which] THAT operates five  
10 or more units of over five thousand square feet of retail space in this  
11 state under common ownership and management OR, IN A CITY WITH A POPU-  
12 LATION OF ONE MILLION OR MORE, SUCH RETAIL ESTABLISHMENT IS PART OF A  
13 CHAIN ENGAGED IN THE SAME GENERAL FIELD OF BUSINESS THAT OPERATES FIVE  
14 OR MORE UNITS IN SUCH CITY UNDER COMMON OWNERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT.

15 S 2. Section 27-2713 of the environmental conservation law, as amended  
16 by chapter 481 of the laws of 2014, is amended to read as follows:  
17 S 27-2713. Preemption.

18 Jurisdiction in all matters pertaining to plastic bag and film plastic  
19 recycling is by this article vested exclusively in the state, EXCEPT  
20 THAT IN A CITY WITH A POPULATION OF ONE MILLION OR MORE, AN AGENCY OR  
21 AGENCIES DESIGNATED BY THE MAYOR OF SUCH CITY MAY ENFORCE SECTION  
22 27-2703 AND SUBDIVISIONS ONE, TWO AND FIVE OF SECTIONS 27-2705 OF THIS  
23 TITLE. Any provision of any local law or ordinance, or any rule or regu-  
24 lation promulgated thereto, governing the recycling of plastic bags and  
25 film plastic shall, upon the effective date of this title, be preempted.

EXPLANATION--Matter in ITALICS (underscored) is new; matter in brackets  
[ ] is old law to be omitted.

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1 Provided however, nothing in this section shall preclude a person from  
2 coordinating for recycling or reuse the collection of plastic bags or  
3 film plastic.

4 S 3. Subdivision 1 of section 71-2728 of the environmental conserva-  
5 tion law, as added by chapter 641 of the laws of 2008, is amended to  
6 read as follows:

7 1. Any person who knowingly or intentionally violates any provision of  
8 or fails to perform any duty imposed pursuant to title 27 of article 27  
9 of this chapter shall [upon the first finding of such a violation be  
10 provided with a warning that future violations shall result in the impo-  
11 sition of a fine] BE LIABLE FOR A CIVIL PENALTY. Any person convicted of  
12 a [second] FIRST violation shall be liable for a civil penalty not to  
13 exceed one hundred dollars. ANY PERSON CONVICTED OF A SECOND VIOLATION  
14 SHALL BE LIABLE FOR A CIVIL PENALTY NOT TO EXCEED TWO HUNDRED FIFTY  
15 DOLLARS. Any person convicted of a third or subsequent violation shall  
16 be liable for a civil penalty not to exceed five hundred dollars.

17 S 4. Section 71-2728 of the environmental conservation law is amended  
18 by adding a new subdivision 4 to read as follows:

19 4. NOTWITHSTANDING ANY PROVISION OF SUBDIVISION ONE, TWO OR THREE OF  
20 THIS SECTION TO THE CONTRARY, IN A CITY WITH A POPULATION OF ONE MILLION  
21 OR MORE, SECTION 27-2703 AND SUBDIVISIONS ONE, TWO AND FIVE OF SECTION  
22 27-2705 OF THIS CHAPTER MAY ALSO BE ENFORCED BY AN AGENCY OR AGENCIES  
23 DESIGNATED BY THE MAYOR OF SUCH CITY. ANY NOTICE OF VIOLATION ISSUED BY  
24 AN AGENCY DESIGNATED BY THE MAYOR OF SUCH CITY CHARGING A VIOLATION OF  
25 SECTION 27-2703 OR SUBDIVISION ONE, TWO OR FIVE OF SECTION 27-2705 OF  
26 THIS CHAPTER SHALL BE RETURNABLE TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL BOARD OF  
27 SUCH CITY. SUCH ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL BOARD SHALL HAVE THE POWER TO  
28 IMPOSE A CIVIL PENALTY NOT TO EXCEED ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS FOR THE FIRST  
29 VIOLATION, NOT TO EXCEED TWO HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS FOR THE SECOND  
30 VIOLATION AND NOT TO EXCEED FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS FOR A THIRD OR SUBSE-  
31 QUENT VIOLATION. ALL CIVIL PENALTIES COLLECTED FOR ANY VIOLATION OF  
32 TITLE 27 OF ARTICLE 27 OF THIS CHAPTER THAT HAVE BEEN IMPOSED BY THE  
33 ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL BOARD OF SUCH CITY SHALL BE PAID INTO THE GENERAL  
34 FUND OF SUCH CITY.

35 S 5. This act shall take effect on the sixtieth day after it shall  
36 have become a law.