AN ACT to amend the environmental conservation law, in relation to recycling program requirements; requires store operators to post signs regarding reusable bags

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

Section 1. Subdivisions 4 and 5 of section 27-2705 of the environmental conservation law, subdivision 4 as amended by chapter 481 of the laws of 2014, and subdivision 5 as added by chapter 641 of the laws of 2008, are amended and a new subdivision 6 is added to read as follows:

4. the store or its agent to maintain, for a minimum of three years, records describing the collection, transport and recycling of plastic carryout bags and film plastic collected by weight, provided however that stores or its agents may weigh such bags, film plastic and any other in-store plastic recycling at a regional collection center. Such records shall be made available to the department upon request, to demonstrate compliance with this title; [and]

5. the operator of the store to (a) make reusable bags available to customers within the store for purchase, and (b) permit a [reusable] reusable bag to be used in lieu of a plastic carryout bag or paper bag[; and]

6. the conspicuous posting of signs, in a manner visible to a consumer, that have printed or displayed on the sign the words "DON'T FORGET YOUR REUSABLE TOTE BAG". The operator of the store is responsible for posting at least one such sign at each entrance of the store open to the public. This subdivision shall apply to stores without regard as to whether the store is within an enclosed shopping mall.

§ 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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