STATE OF NEW YORK

706

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

(Prefiled)

January 8, 2025

Introduced by Sens. MAY, HINCHEY, SKOUFIS -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Environmental Conservation

AN ACT to amend the environmental conservation law, in relation to updating the definition of the term "reusable bag"

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

Section 1. Subdivision 5 of section 27-2701 of the environmental conservation law, as added by chapter 641 of the laws of 2008, is amended to read as follows:

5. "Reusable bag" means[~~:~~

~~(a) a bag made of cloth or other machine washable fabric that has handles; or~~

~~(b) a durable plastic bag with handles that is specifically~~] a bag that is designed and manufactured for multiple reuse, and that:

(a) is made of:

(i) cloth or other machine washable fabric;

(ii) non-film washable material; or

(iii) hand washable or machine washable cloth or fabric, including woven or nonwoven polypropylene, polyethylene-terephthalate, polyethylene made of at least eighty percent recycled material and that is recyclable, polyester, or nylon fabric, or a fabric blend that includes any such material;

(b) has at least one strap or handle that does not stretch and is fastened to such bag in such a manner that allows such bag to meet the strength and durability standards under paragraph (c) of this subdivision;

(c) has a minimum lifespan of one hundred twenty-five uses, with a use equal to the ability to carry a minimum of twenty-two pounds over a distance of at least one hundred seventy-five feet; and

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

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(d) has a minimum fabric weight of eighty grams per square meter or equivalent for bags made of any non-film plastic of natural, synthetic, petroleum-based or non-petroleum-based origin, including woven or non-woven polypropylene, polyethylene-terephthalate, cotton, jute, or canvas.

§ 2. This act shall take effect on the thirtieth day after it shall have become a law.