



12 June 2013

CF # 11-1531

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The Honorable Herb Wesson
President, Los Angeles City Council
200 N Spring Street, Room 430
Los Angeles, CA 90012

RE: Oppose plastic bag tax

Dear Honorable Herb Wesson:

For over 37 years, the Asian Business Association has served the Asian business community here in Los Angeles. With an upcoming vote to implement a plastic bag ban in Los Angeles City, small businesses will be adversely and negatively affected further hurting business and their ability to grow. For that reason, I write to oppose this measure banning plastic bags and adding a 10-cent tax on paper grocery bags city-wide.

Not only will a bag ban limit customers' choice at the checkout line, but paper bags are more expensive than plastic and will force small businesses to invest in a product that adds no real value and takes up crucial floor space. At a time when the cost of transportation, food and housing continues to rise, Los Angeles City residents are thinking about every penny. If the ban is passed, people will have to include the cost of carry-home bags into their weekly grocery budget instead of being able to maximize their dollars on the items that matter most. Regulating shopper's grocery bags adds an unnecessary burden to families in a down economy and could potentially lead to a decrease in revenue for local businesses as shoppers will choose to shop outside of the city.

As you can see, there are many impacts to consider that are far-reaching into the community. I hope you will side with small businesses and vote no on a plastic bag ban in Los Angeles. In order to keep our city growing, we need to give our community members a chance to recover from the current economic conditions. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Dennis Huang
Executive Director

cc: All Members, Los Angeles City Council

Asian Business Association is the premiere non-profit organization that serves the needs of Asian Pacific Islander business owners and professionals. ABA has been proactively assisting these businesses gain access to economic opportunities and advancement since 1976. ABA has an active membership base of over 600, and offers programs to help these businesses grow.



MO:DAY:YEAR
6/13/2013

CLIENT CODE:
FWC-34422

FUNDING AMOUNT: Fifty Thousand Dollars and 00/100 *****

DOLLARS

DOLLARS	CENTS
***\$50,000	.00

TO: Small Business Owner
United States of America

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- \$75,000.00 - Retail Store Boutique - Irvine, CA - For additional inventory

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Report NO. R 13 - 0167 Re June 13 2013 Revised Draft Ordinance regarding carryout bags

1 message

Harvey pearson <harvey.pearson@hotmail.com>
To: "jose.huizar@lacity.org" <jose.huizar@lacity.org>
Cc: "eric.villanueva@lacity.org" <eric.villanueva@lacity.org>

Thu, Jun 13, 2013 at 5:01 PM

Harvey Pearson
4437 Ambrose Ave. Apt. #15
Los Angeles, CA 90027
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Honorable City Councilman Jose Huizar
Chair, Energy & Environment Committee
Attn. Martin Schlageter, Policy Director
Other Honorable Committee Members
City Council File No. 11-1531
Los Angeles City Council
City Hall
Los Angeles, California

Re A supplement to my previous: "June 17 Committee Hearing regarding a carryout bag ordinance for the City of Los Angeles, specifically including a response to the California Grocers Association's input of June 3, 2013 (as entered into City Council File No. 11-1531)" submission.

Dear Chairman Huizar/Honorable Committee Members:

I see where, per your request, the City Attorney's Revised Draft Ordinance of June 13 (please see subject line above) has added: (4) *contains no old growth fiber*. (This has been added to Sec. 195.01 Definitions, under a would-be Article 2 of Chapter XIX of the Los Angeles Municipal code.)

All well and good.

However, there is no (5) *has handles*.

Not so good!

Because, what happens when a walker-shopper (the best kind of shopper for the environment, obviously) realizes that he/she has forgotten to bring his/her reusable bags to the market with them? Should they have to pay **ten times** the ten cent cost per each paper bag for yet more reusable bags—ones that, by the ordinance's own definition, "has handles"? This would be the current case with Albertsons, Vons and some Ralphs, for example. That's not fair, because ya (the average person) can't carry even two loaded grocery bags with no handles, i.e., securely and safely, for even one city block!

Thank you for your re-consideration of adding at least these two little—but so important!— words to your pending ordinance.

Harvey Pearson
Los Feliz/Los Angeles