

CF# 11-1531



April 13, 2012

Mayor Villaraigosa and the Los Angeles City Council
200 N. Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

SUPPORT: Plastic Bag Ban

Dear Mayor Villaraigosa and the Los Angeles City Council:

I am writing on behalf the ChicoBag Company and as a founding member of the Reusable Bag Association. We urge the Los Angeles City Council to enact the proposed ordinance to significantly reduce unnecessary single-use disposable bags.

California is home to more reusable bag companies than any other state in the country. This is a result of municipal governments taking action and enacting ordinances to address the adverse consequences such as unsightly litter, taxpayer burden, environmental degradation and unnecessary resource depletion that results from the over-consumption of inexpensive and flimsy plastic carry-out bags.

Upon investigation, you'll find all business-savvy single-use plastic bag manufacturers have a diverse product line and will not be put out of business if a ban is enacted. Any claim of massive job loss is simply a scare tactic. Many already have the ability to manufacture a bag that meets the reusable bag definition. Companies are always innovating to keep up with changes in consumer preference. This is democracy in action and business needs to evolve.

In fact, a ban on the most destructive and unnecessary disposable bag creates huge opportunity for entrepreneurs and solution-oriented companies in California. The bag bans are only helping make California and the City of Los Angeles the home to not only the most, but to some of the largest reusable bag companies in the country. These companies are based here and distribute to customers around the world.

Retailers can only curb the unnecessary consumption and waste together as a group. This can only be done with a municipal ordinance.

Thank you for your consideration. We strongly urge the City Council to enact a bag ban. Please call upon me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Andy Keller
President