

H. B. 4408

(By Delegates Rodighiero, Ellis,

Kessler and Reynolds)

[Introduced February 5, 2008; referred to the

Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources then the Judiciary.]

A BILL to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding thereto a new section, designated §22-15-24, relating to banning light plastic bags.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

That the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, be amended by adding thereto a new section designated §22-15-24, to read as follows:

ARTICLE 15. SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT ACT.

§22-15-24. Banning light plastic bags.

(a) Beginning on the first day of July, two thousand eight, all retail establishments shall be required to phase out the use of light plastic bags used for consumer purchases and will eliminate use of light plastic bags by the first of July, two thousand eleven.

(b) As part of this elimination of plastic bag program, all retailers are required to:

(1) Provide customers with compostable bags;

(2) Label bags to return to store for recycling;

(3) Place recycling bins in visible and accessible locations for customer use; and

(4) Provide reusable bags for customers to potentially purchase in lieu of disposable bags.

NOTE: The purpose of this section is to eliminate plastic bags from use in retail establishments.

Strike-throughs indicate language that would be stricken from the present law, and underscoring indicates new language that would be added.