

(Ord. No. 3587, § 1, 8-22-2008, effective 1-11-2011) Maui County, Hawaii

**20.18.010 Purpose.**

- A. The production and use of plastic bags have significant impacts on the environment, including, but not limited to: contributing to unsightly litter; creating an additional burden on landfills; contributing to potential death of marine animals through ingestion and entanglement; and requiring the use of millions of barrels of crude oil for their manufacture.
- B. The council finds and declares that to preserve the health, safety, welfare, and scenic and natural beauty of the County of Maui, the use of plastic bags must be regulated.
- C. The purpose of this chapter is to encourage the use of environmentally preferable alternatives to plastic bags, such as recyclable paper bags or reusable bags.

**20.18.020 Definitions.**

"Business" means any commercial enterprise or establishment, including sole proprietorships, joint ventures, partnerships and corporations, or any other legally cognizable entity, whether for profit or not for profit, includes all employees of the business or any independent contractors associated with the business.

"Director" means the director of environmental management.

"Plastic bag" means a bag that is made from noncompostable plastic or compostable plastic, and is not specifically designed and manufactured for multiple re-use.

"Recyclable paper bag" means a paper bag that: (1) is one hundred percent recyclable, (2) contains a minimum of forty percent post-consumer recycled content, and (3) displays the words "Reusable" and "Recyclable" in a highly visible manner on the outside of the bags.

"Reusable bag" means a bag that is specifically designed and manufactured for multiple re-use and is (1) made of cloth or other washable fabric, or (2) made of durable material suitable for reuse.

**20.18.030 Administration.**

- A. The director shall administer this chapter and shall adopt administrative rules pursuant to chapter 91, Hawaii Revised Statutes, within one hundred eighty days from the effective date of this ordinance.
- B. On or before September 1 of each year, the director shall submit to the council a report assessing the estimated increase in the number of business customers using recyclable paper bags or reusable bags.

**20.18.040 Plastic bag restrictions.**

- A. Businesses are prohibited from providing plastic bags to their customers at the point of sale for the purpose of transporting groceries or other goods.
- B. Nothing in this chapter shall preclude a business from making reusable bags or recyclable paper bags available for sale or without charge to customers at the point of sale for the purpose of transporting groceries or other goods.

**20.18.050 Violation and penalties.**

- A. Violations of this chapter shall be subject to the civil penalties and enforcement procedures of section 19.530.030 of this code.
- B. Fines collected pursuant to this chapter shall be deposited into the open space, natural resources, cultural resources, and scenic views preservation fund.