

Municipal Clerk's Office

Approved

Date: October 8, 2019

Submitted by: ASSEMBLY MEMBERS CONSTANT AND KENNEDY, MAYOR'S OFFICE

Prepared by: Dept. of Law

For reading: September 24, 2019

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

AO No. 2019-121

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL CODE SECTION 15.95.020, PROHIBITION ON PROVIDING OR DISTRIBUTING PLASTIC SHOPPING BAGS; FEES FOR ALTERNATIVE BAGS; EXCEPTIONS; TO CLARIFY THAT RETAIL SELLERS ARE NOT REQUIRED TO PROVIDE ALTERNATIVE BAGS, BUT MUST CHARGE A FEE WHEN THEY DO, TO EXEMPT CERTAIN BUSINESSES FROM THE FEE WHEN PROVIDING ALTERNATIVE BAGS, AND OTHER MINOR MODIFICATIONS.

WHEREAS, the Anchorage Assembly passed AO 2018-63(S) on August 28, 2018 to prohibit certain retail sellers from distributing plastic shopping bags;

WHEREAS, through AO 2018-110, As Amended, the Anchorage Assembly delayed the date the prohibition went into effect to September 15, 2019;

WHEREAS, as the prohibition on plastic bags is being implemented across the Municipality, issues with interpretation and implementation have been brought to light; now, therefore,

THE ANCHORAGE ASSEMBLY ORDAINS:

Section 1. Anchorage Municipal Code section 15.95.020 - Prohibition on providing or distributing plastic shopping bags; fees for alternative bags; exceptions - is hereby amended to read as follows (the remainder of the section is not affected and therefore not set out):

15.95.020 Prohibition on providing or distributing plastic shopping bags; fees for alternative bags; exceptions.

A. On or after September 15, 2019, except as provided in this section a retail seller shall not provide a plastic shopping bag to a purchaser to carry away goods purchased from, or serviced by, the retail seller.

B. On or after September 15, 2019, except as provided in this section, a retail seller may [SHALL] provide an alternative bag to a purchaser to carry away goods purchased from, or serviced by, the retail seller, and if they do, they shall charge [ONLY FOR] a minimum fee of \$0.10 per bag with a maximum charge of \$0.50 per transaction. A retail seller:

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7. The fees in this section do not apply to businesses such as
restaurants and vendors at temporary markets.
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Section 2. This ordinance shall be effective immediately upon passage and approval by the Assembly.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Anchorage Assembly this 8th day of October, 2019.

Chair of the Assembly

ATTEST:

Municipal Clerk