



H-1

Fw: Don't Ban, Charge!

Irma Heinrichs to: Merianne Nakagawa, Nancy Muth, Allison
Bunma, Carolyn Harris

05/17/2011 11:32 AM

----- Forwarded by Irma Heinrichs/CC/CLB on 05/17/2011 11:32 AM -----

From: Council District3/LD/CLB
To: cityclerk@longbeach.gov
Date: 05/17/2011 11:29 AM
Subject: Fw: Don't Ban, Charge!
Sent by: Joseph Toney

----- Forwarded by Joseph Toney/LD/CLB on 05/17/2011 11:29 AM -----

From: anngadfly@aol.com
To: district8@longbeach.gov, district7@longbeach.gov, district5@longbeach.gov, mayor@longbeach.gov,
district4@longbeach.gov, district9@longbeach.gov, district2@longbeach.gov, district3@longbeach.gov, district6@longbeach.gov,
district1@longbeach.gov, mail@lbreport.com
Date: 05/17/2011 10:21 AM
Subject: Don't Ban, Charge!

Not only are plastic bags unsightly and clog up storm drains, they are death for many marine creatures who accidentally ingest them. Just this week, a dead whale was found with a stomach full of plastic bags. Hundreds of sea turtles die each year with plastic bags clogging their intestines. Birds become entangled in them and eat the disintegrating pieces, starving to death with a gizzard full of plastic.

Why is there is such a problem with plastic bags clogging our streets and waterways? I believe it is because they are free. People take no care of something that is a throw-away item.

Because many people do reuse both plastic and paper grocery bags, they do have a value and should not be banned. My solution is to do as many other cities and countries do and put a monetary value on both plastic and paper bags. In Ireland, you must pay twenty-five cents for a plastic bag. As a result, there are no bags on the streets or in the water.

Before there was a deposit fee placed on aluminum cans, they were all over the streets and beaches. With no value, people just tossed them when empty. This problem was mostly solved with just a five cent deposit. If a price were put on plastic and paper bags, they would also become a commodity, valued by those needing extra cash.

I also believe in free choice and I choose to carry reusable bags when I go shopping. If you do not wish to do this simple thing, then you can choose to pay for a plastic or paper bag. Please just dispose of it properly.

Ann Cantrell
3106 Claremore
Long Beach, CA 90808
562/596-7288