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HOUSE BILL NO. 288

Offered January 13, 2016

Prefiled January 4, 2016

A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Article 1 of Chapter 9 of Title 15.2 a section numbered 15.2-926.3, relating to disposable plastic shopping bags.

Patron—Helsel

Referred to Committee on Counties, Cities and Towns

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding in Article 1 of Chapter 9 of Title 15.2 a section numbered 15.2-926.3 as follows:

§ 15.2-926.3. Optional ban on providing disposable plastic shopping bags.

Any locality may by ordinance prohibit the distribution, sale, and offer for sale of disposable plastic shopping bags to consumers. No prohibition adopted under the authority of this section shall apply to plastic bags that are (i) specifically designed and manufactured for multiple reuse, exhibiting durable construction, a thickness of at least 2.25 mils, and a pair of handles; (ii) used to carry alcoholic beverages, prescription drugs, leftover restaurant food, newspapers, or dry cleaning; (iii) used to carry ice cream, meat, fish, poultry, produce, or otherwise nonhandled bags used to protect a purchased item from damaging or contaminating other purchased items; or (iv) packaged and sold in multiples for use in carrying or holding garbage, pet waste, or leaves.

INTRODUCED

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