

1 [Supporting City of Oakland to fight lawsuit against Plastic Bag Ban]

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3 **Resolution supporting the City of Oakland in fighting a lawsuit that has been brought**  
4 **against Oakland’s recently passed ban on non-compostable check out plastic bags at**  
5 **large retail stores and urging the City of Oakland to fight the industry suit and not to**  
6 **conduct a full environmental impact report that could set a precedent for other local**  
7 **government efforts to protect the environment.**

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9 WHEREAS, bags use increasingly scarce resources including energy, and create  
10 pollution from production through disposal, with only 1% of plastic bags being recycled; and,

11 WHEREAS, plastic bags create significant, persistent and costly litter problems for Bay  
12 Area streets, beaches, sewer system and the marine environment; and,

13 WHEREAS, San Francisco and the City of Oakland have both passed landmark  
14 legislation to reduce the use of plastic bags by requiring the use of reusable, compostable  
15 plastic or recyclable paper bags, for large grocery stores; and,

16 WHEREAS, plastic bags are perceived as disposable products and are an impediment  
17 to landfill diversion and waste reduction; and,

18 WHEREAS, a plastics industry front group calling itself “The Coalition to Support  
19 Plastic Bag Recycling” is suing the City of Oakland in an effort to overturn the city's ordinance  
20 on the grounds that the city did not comply with the California Environmental Quality Act  
21 (CEQA); and,

22 WHEREAS, completion of an unnecessary Environmental Impact Assessment could  
23 set a precedent that would interfere with other local government attempts to protect the  
24 environment and public health; now, therefore, be it

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1 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors urges the City of Oakland to fight the  
2 plastics industry suit and not conduct an Environmental Impact Assessment

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