



April 4, 2019

Representative Ken Helm, Chair
House Committee on Energy and Environment
900 Court St. NE
Salem, Oregon 97301

RE: City of Eugene Supports HB 2509- Single Use Carry Out Bags

Chair Helm and Members of the Committee:

The City of Eugene supports HB 2509 as introduced and the -10 amendments posted on 4/4/19, as they are congruent with the City's existing bag ban ordinance and provide the addition of food establishments.

On March 11, 2019, the Eugene City Council voted in unanimous approval, to direct the City Manager to draft an amendment to the current bag ban ordinance and schedule a public hearing to include single-use carryout bags for retail food businesses.

The Council carefully deliberated this issue over the course of two work sessions and based their action on adopted policy including Eugene's 2014 Climate Recovery Ordinance and the Oregon DEQ's Materials Management Vision 2050 plan.

The definitions in Section 1 are aligned with the existing definitions for the City of Eugene ban. The guidance within Section 3 provides allowances for existing ordinances to be grandfathered in and amended as necessary, and specifically allows the City's existing enforcement mechanism to stay in effect if HB 2509 passes.

In closing, the City of Eugene supports a statewide standard for reducing the use of single use carry out bags, one that respects the work of local communities which have established these laws in advance of the Legislature's actions.

Sincerely,

Submitted electronically.

Ethan Nelson, Intergovernmental Relations Manager