Plastic checkout bags to be banned in Maui County beginning January 11, 2011

Mayor Charmaine Tavares

Sincerely,

Mayor Charmaine Tavares

Plastic checkout bags to be banned in Maui County beginning January 11, 2011. It will take all of us, working together, to make this important change—a change that will have a profound impact on our health, the wildlife and our environment for generations to come.

Thank you for your support of the Plastic Bag Reduction Ordinance, which takes effect January 11, 2011. It will take all of us, working together, to make this important change—a change that will have a profound impact on our health, the wildlife and our environment for generations to come.

Let’s Get Ready Together

Maui County and the world. We invite our visitors to join us in preserving our beautiful environment.

We will be holding informational meetings (meeting dates, times and locations below) to reach out to our partners in the business sector. With the help of businesses, we are in the process of learning a new way to shop, thereby creating a more sustainable lifestyle.

Our fragile eco-system has been harmed by the overuse of plastic bags. Plastic bags are picked up by strong winds and blown across our beautiful islands, eventually ending up strung on trees and fences or carried out to sea. Enough already! It’s time to change our ways.

We encourage visitors to our islands to also carry reusable bags, because this is the new trend for Maui County and the world. We invite our visitors to join us in preserving our beautiful environment.

The keiki of Maui County will have an important role to play in helping us make the transition, by reminding family members to take the reusable bags into the store. Thus, some of our educational outreach will be geared toward our youth, whose participation will be key to the success of this new legislation. Years from now they can look back on this historical occasion and reflect on how they helped shape our county’s future.

Many businesses are now asking customers if they need a bag, and placing signs at the register asking “Did you remember your bag?” or “Please bring reusable bags back to the store.” We also know that several stores offer a five-cent credit for customers who bring their own reusable bag.

We appreciate the bag distributors and retailers who are providing reusable bags for their customers, and encourage all businesses to stop offering single-use plastic bags as soon as possible.

Did you know that every year we use over 50 million single-use plastic bags in the County of Maui? … it’s time to change our ways.

Informational Outreach Meetings*:

KHEI COMMUNITY CENTER:
Thursday, Feb. 18 • 3:00 p.m.

WAILUKU COMMUNITY CENTER:
Thursday, Feb. 25 • 3:00 p.m.

WEST MAUI COMMUNITY CENTER:
Thursday, March 11 • 3:00 p.m.

*Appropriate for businesses and restaurants of all sizes; wholesale bag distributors

BE IT ORDAINED by the PEOPLE OF THE COUNTY of MAUI:

SECTION 1. Chapter 20.18, Maui County Code, is amended to add a new chapter to be appropriately designated and to read as follows:

"Chapter 20.18 PLASTIC BAG REDUCTION"

Sections:

20.18.010 Purpose.

20.18.020 Definitions.

20.18.030 Administration.

20.18.040 Plastic bag restrictions.

20.18.050 Violation and penalties.

20.18.060 Exemptions.

20.18.070 Inspection.

20.18.080 Authorization.

20.18.090 Enforcement.

20.18.100 Penalties.

20.18.110 Final order.

20.18.120 Appeals.

20.18.130 Certificate of registered designated agent.

20.18.140 Approvals and inspections.

20.18.150 Exempt businesses or establishments.

20.18.160 Reuseable bags.

20.18.170 Plastic bag reductions.

20.18.180 Requirements.

20.18.190 Compliance.

20.18.200 Distribution and use of plastic bags.

20.18.210 Fines.

20.18.220 Reporting.

20.18.230 Reporting.

20.18.240 Reporting.

20.18.250 Reporting.

20.18.260 Reporting.

20.18.270 Reporting.

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20.18.360 Reporting.

20.18.370 Reporting.

20.18.380 Reporting.

20.18.390 Reporting.

20.18.400 Reporting.

20.18.410 Reporting.

20.18.420 Reporting.

"Every year, more than 50 million single-use plastic bags are used in Maui County. ... it's time to change our ways."

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