



BALTIMORE HOUSING

SHEILA DIXON
Mayor

PAUL T. GRAZIANO
Executive Director, HABC
Commissioner, HCD

MEMORANDUM

To: The Honorable President and Members of the Baltimore City Council
c/o Karen Randle, Executive Secretary

From: Paul T. Graziano, Commissioner

Date: April 7, 2008

Re: City Council Bill 08-0060 Plastic Bag Reduction

The Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) has reviewed City Council Bill 08-0060, which was introduced for the purpose of prohibiting certain markets and formula retail stores from using certain types of plastic checkout bags.

Under the proposed legislation, supermarkets and other brand names stores would be prohibited from providing checkout bags to their customers unless those bags are either reusable or made of recyclable paper. The bill would effectively prohibit petroleum based plastic bags from local stores. Penalties imposed on violators would escalate from \$250 to \$1000 depending on the number of offenses accumulated over time.

The Department of Housing and Community Development has no objection to the intent of the City Council Bill 08-0060; however, we defer to the Health Department to address specifics enforcement issues of the proposed legislation.

PTG:pmd

cc: Ms. Angela Gibson
Mr. Demaune Millard



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