

COUNTY COUNCIL OF ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY, MARYLAND

Legislative Session 2026, Legislative Day No. 16

Bill No. 74-26

Introduced by Mr. Volke, Ms. Leadbetter, and Ms. Fiedler

By the County Council, September 8, 2026

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Introduced and first read on September 8, 2026  
Public Hearing set for October 5, 2026  
Bill Expires on November 1, 2026

By Order: Kaley Schultze, Administrative Officer

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ORDINANCE concerning: Public Safety – Miscellaneous Provisions – Repeal of  
2 Paper and Reusable Bags Fee Requirement

3  
4 FOR the purpose of repealing the requirement to charge for paper bags and certain duties  
5 of retail establishments; repealing the violation of failure to charge, collect, or retain  
6 fees per paper and reusable carryout bags; and generally relating to public safety.

7  
8 BY repealing: § 12-7-109(d)  
9 Anne Arundel County Code (2005, as amended)

10  
11 BY repealing, reenacting, and renumbering, with amendments: § 12-7-109(e) to be § 12-  
12 7-109(d)  
13 Anne Arundel County Code (2005, as amended)

14  
15 SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the County Council of Anne Arundel County, Maryland,*  
16 That § 12-7-109(d) of the Anne Arundel County Code (2005, as amended) is hereby  
17 repealed.

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19 SECTION 2. *And be it further enacted,* That Section(s) of the Anne Arundel County  
20 Code (2005, as amended) read as follows:

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22 **ARTICLE 12. PUBLIC SAFETY**

23  
24 **TITLE 7. MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS**

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS indicate new matter added to existing law.  
[[Brackets]] indicate matter deleted from existing law.  
Captions and taglines in **bold** in this bill are catchwords and are not law.  
Asterisks \*\*\* indicate existing Code provisions in a list or chart that remain unchanged.

1 **12-7-109. Plastic bags prohibited.**

2  
3 **[[e)] (D) Violations; enforcement.**

4  
5 (1) A violation of this section is a Class C civil offense. The County may enforce  
6 this section through injunctive proceedings or any other appropriate proceedings.

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8 (2) A retail establishment shall be given a warning for the first offense.

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10 (3) (i) Except as provided in [[subparagraphs]] SUBPARAGRAPH (ii) [[and (iii)]],  
11 multiple violations during a consumer transaction at a single point of sale constitutes a  
12 single offense.

13  
14 (ii) The provision of one or more plastic carryout bags per consumer transaction  
15 at a single point of sale is a single offense.

16  
17 [[(iii) The failure to charge, collect, or retain at least 10 cents per paper or  
18 reusable carryout bag that a retail establishment provides to a customer is a single  
19 offense.]]

20  
21 (4) A fine may not be imposed against a retail establishment more than once in a  
22 seven-day period.

23  
24 (5) (i) The Department of Health shall enforce this section at all food service  
25 facilities.

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27 (ii) The Department of Inspections and Permits shall enforce this section at all  
28 retail establishments that are not food service facilities.

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30 (iii) The name and address of any retail establishment found to violate this  
31 section, including the date of the violation, the nature of the violation, and the amount of  
32 any fine imposed, shall be posted on the County's website.

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34 SECTION 3. *And be it further enacted*, That this Ordinance shall take effect 45 days  
35 from the date it becomes law.