

Connecticut General Assembly
Environment Committee
March 4, 2016

SB-226 An Act Concerning Single Use Carryout Bags

My name is John Chunis. I live at 40 Deerfield Run, Rocky Hill, CT. I am testifying against this bill.

While I am unable to attend the Public Hearing, I would like my opinion to be considered.

As a consumer in the State of Connecticut, I see this bill as an unnecessary government burden that will eventually lead to higher costs for all consumers.

Single use plastic bags are actually a benefit to consumers and the environment. They actually should be called multiple use plastic bags as most people I know, after carrying their food home from the store, use them for lunch bags, diaper disposal bags, storage for yarn, small tools, dog poop bag, etc. While there are some people who may throw these off the side of their boats or out the windows of their cars, the vast majority of people handle them responsibly. Most people bring them back to the stores for recycling already. Those that are thrown away in the trash at home are burned in the trash to energy plants, so we make electricity out of them, and reduce our reliance on electricity imported from the Midwest generated by coal. This reduces air pollution and acid rain in our state.

Transitioning away from their use, as described in this bill, will add significant costs to the purchasing of everyday necessities. While these extra costs may be welcomed by California styled wannabes, and will have little impact on our Greenwich millionaires, our inner city and rural poor will be significantly impacted by this unnecessary burden.

I strongly urge you not to support this bill.

Thank you for considering my opinions.