AN ACT ESTABLISHING A FIVE-CENT TAX ON SINGLE-USE PLASTIC AND PAPER BAGS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

Section 1. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2019) (a) For the purposes of this section:

1. "Single-use carryout bag" means a bag made of plastic, paper or other material that is provided by a store to a customer at the point of sale, customarily without a fee, and that is not one hundred per cent recyclable. "Single-use carryout bag" does not include any of the following: (A) A bag provided by a pharmacy to a customer purchasing a prescription medication, (B) a nonhandled bag used to protect a purchased item from damaging or contaminating other purchased items when placed in a one hundred per cent recyclable bag, a compostable bag, a recycled paper bag or a reusable bag, (C) a bag provided to contain an unwrapped food item, or (D) a nonhandled bag that is designed to be placed over: (i) Articles of clothing on a hanger, or (ii) a newspaper.

2. "Store" means a retail establishment that meets any of the
following requirements: (A) Is a full-line, self-service retail store with
gross annual sales of two million dollars or more and that sells a line of
dry groceries, canned goods or nonfood items and some perishable
items, (B) contains not less than ten thousand square feet of retail space
that generates sales or use tax in accordance with title 12 of the general
statutes, (C) is a convenience food store, foodmart or other entity that
is engaged in the retail sale of a limited line of goods, generally
including milk, bread, soda and snack foods, or (D) is a convenience
food store, foodmart or other entity that is engaged in the retail sale of
goods intended to be consumed off the premises.

(b) (1) On and after October 1, 2019, no store shall provide or sell to
any customer at the point of sale a single-use carryout bag at a cost of
less than five cents.

(2) Any funds collected by a store pursuant to subdivision (1) of this
subsection shall be deposited with the Commissioner of Revenue
Services who shall provide for the deposit of such funds into the
account established pursuant to section 23-15h of the general statutes.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following
sections:

| Section 1 | October 1, 2019 | New section |

Statement of Purpose:
To encourage consumer use of reusable bags.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline,
except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is
not underlined.]

Co-Sponsors: REP. CONLEY, 40th Dist.; REP. ROTELLA, 43rd Dist.

H.B. 5019