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1 **WHEREAS, in addition to City efforts to limit plastic waste and single-use**
2 **plastic pollution in our City, the City’s recycling program can also present a**
3 **significant opportunity for environmental impact mitigation and community**
4 **improvement, and moving forward the City should study options for improving**
5 **the effectiveness of its recycling program, including but not limited to by**
6 **evaluating the reasons for recyclable contamination rates and options for a**
7 **City-operated recycling facility.**

8 **BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL, THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF**
9 **ALBUQUERQUE:**

10 **SECTION 1. Enacting the “Albuquerque Clean & Green Retail Ordinance.”**

11 **“§ 13-17-1 Short Title; Purpose**

12 **A. This ordinance shall be cited as the “Albuquerque Clean & Green**
13 **Retail Ordinance.”**

14 **B. The production and disposal of single-use plastic bags and straws**
15 **creates significant environmental impacts including the contamination of the**
16 **environment, ingestion and entanglement by wildlife, and widespread litter.**
17 **The purpose of this ordinance is to protect and enhance the city’s unique and**
18 **precious environment, wildlife, and beauty through the reduction of single-use**
19 **non-compostable or non-recyclable bags, and to encourage the use of**
20 **reusable or sustainable options.**

21 **13-17-2 Applicability**

22 **A. Effective January 1, 2020, a business, other than a food service**
23 **establishment or dry cleaner, shall not provide any plastic single-use bag for**
24 **the purpose of carrying products from the point of sale or any other single-use**
25 **bag for this purpose unless:**

26 **a. The bag meets standards for recycling, biodegrading, or**
27 **another form of acceptable disposal as set forth by the Director of Solid**
28 **Waste; and**

29 **b. The business posts at the point of sale or on each bag a notice**
30 **that the bags issued pursuant to this act are recyclable or biodegradable and**
31 **encourages proper disposal of the bags.**

32 **B. All city businesses are encouraged, but not required, to post notices**
33 **encouraging customers to bring their own reusable shopping bags.**

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1 C. This ordinance shall not be construed to apply to plastic wrappings,
2 bags or containers distributed by the manufacturer for packaging or preparing
3 goods for display prior to sale.

4 D. This ordinance shall not be construed to restrict the Environmental
5 Health Department from issuing public health directives.

6 E. A retailer shall be encouraged to waive any bag fees for persons
7 paying with public assistance.

8 **13-17-3 Creation of a Clean & Green Business Program**

9 A. The City hereby establishes a Clean & Green Business Program.

10 B. Businesses may apply for certification as a Clean & Green Business,
11 via an online form as determined by the Mayor, by:

12 a. Affirming compliance with this ordinance;

13 b. Participating in the City's commercial recycling program;

14 c. Posting notices at the point of sale or on public entrances
15 encouraging the recycling of compliant single-use bags, straws and
16 containers; and

17 d. Providing multi-use shopping bags, straws or containers for
18 free for the use of customers.

19 C. Certified businesses shall be issued a sticker or other emblem
20 identifying the business as a certified Albuquerque Clean & Green Business.

21 **13-17-4 Enforcement**

22 A. Each act in violation of this article shall constitute a separate civil
23 violation. Civil violations of this article shall subject the owner of the
24 offending business to the following penalties for offenses during any 36-
25 consecutive-month period:

26 a. a warning;

27 b. a civil fine of \$100 for the first offense;

28 c. a civil fine of \$250 for the second offense and subsequent
29 offenses.

30 B. Each calendar day during which the civil violation occurs shall
31 constitute a separate and distinct offense.

32 C. Upon determination by the administration that a violation of this
33 article has occurred, the administration will cause to be sent a Notice of

1 Violation, which notice will be mailed postage pre-paid return- receipt-
2 requested to the agent on file for the business as determined by the City of
3 Albuquerque Business License. The notice shall contain the following
4 information:

- 5 a. The address where the violation occurred;
- 6 b. A brief narrative of the circumstances surrounding the
7 violation;
- 8 c. A statement regarding whether this is the first, second or
9 subsequent offense within a consecutive 36-month period;
- 10 d. A name and phone number or title of municipal employee
11 from whom the owner can obtain further information;
- 12 e. The address where payment for the violation may be made;
- 13 f. A statement that the owner has the right to contest the
14 validity of the civil violation by requesting a hearing in writing within ten
15 days of the date of mailing of the Notice of Violation; and
- 16 g. A copy of this article.

17 D. Any person who is issued a Notice of Violation may request that a
18 hearing be scheduled by the city hearing officer by submitting a timely
19 hearing request and paying a \$50 hearing fee to the Independent Office of
20 Hearings. The hearing shall be conducted by a City Hearing Officer, as
21 defined by the Independent Office of Hearings Ordinance (§§ 2-7-8-1 et seq.
22 ROA 1994). The hearing shall be held within 20 working days (excluding
23 weekends and holidays) of receipt of the request unless the hearing is
24 continued with the agreement of the parties. The hearing shall be informal
25 and not bound by the technical rules of evidence. The City Hearing Officer
26 shall determine whether a violation of this article occurred. The Hearing
27 Officer shall mail a written notice of decision to the owner within five working
28 days of the hearing. If the Hearing Officer finds that there was no violation of
29 this article, then the Hearing Officer shall (i) refund hearing fee and (ii) issue
30 and date a Certificate of Compliance. If the Hearing Officer determines that a
31 violation of this article did occur, then the Hearing Officer shall impose a fine
32 as above prescribed.

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1 E. Failure to pay a fine imposed by this article—whether the fine is
2 uncontested or unsuccessfully contested—shall subject the property owner to
3 the penalty provisions set forth in § 9-9-11 of this code of ordinances. Each
4 failure is considered a separate offense.”

5 SECTION 2. Requiring an impact study within 2 years

6 A. During the second-half of FY 2022, a temporary administrative
7 committee shall convene to evaluate the impact of this ordinance and present
8 a report to the Mayor and City Council before June 30, 2022.

9 B. The committee shall include:

- 10 a. The Director of Council Services, or her designee;
- 11 b. The Director of Solid Waste, or his designee;
- 12 c. The Director of Environmental Health, or his/her designee;
- 13 d. The City Council president, or her designee;
- 14 e. The CAO, or her designee;
- 15 f. A member of the Small Business Advisory Council, elected by
16 the Council from among its members.

17 C. The report shall, at a minimum and as well as can be reasonably
18 determined, determine the number of prohibited bags and containers diverted
19 from the public waste stream by this act, and the percentage of customers
20 using reusable bags or containers on a regular basis. The committee shall
21 also make recommendations for changes to this act.

22 SECTION 3. Public Education and Funding

23 A. No less than 180 days prior to the effective date, the Mayor shall
24 initiate a public education campaign, which shall include notice to each city
25 Solid Waste customer through bill inserts or through some similar notice,
26 about the new regulations and encouraging the recycling of permitted single-
27 use items.

28 B. The Mayor is authorized to use the Solid Waste Enterprise fund to
29 provide education about this ordinance and use the General Fund for
30 enforcement of the ordinance.

31 SECTION 4. SEVERABILITY CLAUSE. If any section, paragraph, sentence,
32 clause, word or phrase of this ordinance is for any reason held to be invalid or
33 unenforceable by any court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not

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1 affect the validity of the remaining provisions of this ordinance. The Council
2 hereby declares that it would have passed this ordinance and each section,
3 paragraph, sentence, clause, word or phrase thereof irrespective of any
4 provision being declared unconstitutional or otherwise invalid.

5 SECTION 5. COMPILATION. The ordinance amendment prescribed by
6 SECTION 1 shall amend, be incorporated in and made part of the Revised
7 ordinances of Albuquerque, New Mexico, 1994.

8 SECTION 6. EFFECTIVE DATE. This ordinance shall take effect after
9 publication by title and general summary on January 1, 2020.

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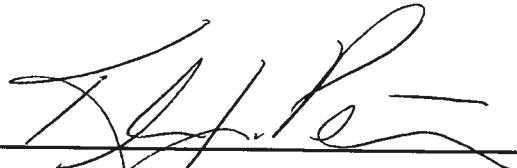
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1 PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 15th DAY OF April, 2019
2 BY A VOTE OF: 5 FOR 3 AGAINST.

3
4 For: Benton, Borrego, Davis, Gibson, Sanchez


5 Against: Harris, Jones, Winter

6 Excused: Peña
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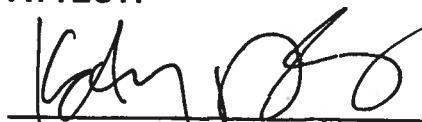
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11 _____
12 Klarissa J. Peña, President
13 City Council
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15
16 APPROVED THIS 20 DAY OF April, 2019
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19 Bill No. O-19-48
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23 _____
24 Timothy M. Keller, Mayor
25 City of Albuquerque
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27 ATTEST:

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29 _____
30 Katy Duhigg, City Clerk
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