

RESOLUTION DESIGNATING THE MONTH OF MAY AS “BAG UP NJ” MONTH

WHEREAS, P.L.202, c.117, signed into law on November 4, 2020 is the most progressive disposable bag law in the country, with the goal of phasing out single-use plastic and paper bags and encouraging the use of reusable bags throughout New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey is working to reduce reliance on single-use products to ensure that future generations have a clean and healthy environment to live, work, and recreate in; and

WHEREAS, banning or limiting the use of single-use plastic and paper carryout bags is a significant step in this effort; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Clean Communities Council, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, the New Jersey Department of State, policymakers, environmental and business groups, as well as other stakeholders, are working together to educate consumers, businesses, and communities about the new law and encouraging residents to "Bag Up" before the ban on single-use plastic bags goes into effect on May 4, 2022; and

WHEREAS, the comprehensive "Bag Up NJ" campaign will include educational programs, public and media engagement and reusable bag distribution programs throughout the state, with an emphasis on underserved communities; and

WHEREAS, this statewide public education campaign will provide residents, businesses and visitors with information about the types of reusable and sustainable bags and containers that they may use and where to access these products.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the [NAME OF MUNICIPALITY] that it is critical to begin educating the public about this new law; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that one way to gain important recognition is to deem the month of May each year as “Bag Up NJ” month in [NAME OF MUNICIPALITY], as a further reminder that all residents should bring their own reusable bags to the store; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution shall be transmitted to the NJ Clean Communities Council, and the New Jersey State League of Municipalities.