

SB 551 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment

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Meeting Dates: 4/17, 4/29

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure prohibits: retailers and restaurants from providing reusable plastic or fabric checkout bags to customers as of January 1, 2027; food and beverage providers and convenience stores from offering single-use plastic utensils or condiment packaging as of July 1, 2026; and lodging establishments with 50 or more rooms from providing small plastic personal care product containers or packaging unless requested, starting January 1, 2027, with the prohibition extending to all lodging establishments by January 1, 2028.

Detailed Summary:

- Modifies definition of "single-use checkout bag." Prohibits retailers and restaurants, as of January 1, 2027, from providing **reusable plastic or fabric checkout bags** to customers.
- Defines "plastic." Prohibits a food and beverage provider or convenience store, as of July 1, 2026, from providing **single-use plastic utensil or single-use condiment packaging** to consumer, unless requested.
- Prohibits, as of January 1, 2027, a lodging establishment that contains 50 or more sleeping room accommodations from providing **personal health or beauty products** in a small plastic personal health or beauty container, plastic wrapper, or any other single-use plastic packaging, unless requested. Expands prohibition to lodging establishments with one or more sleeping room accommodations as of January 1, 2028. Provides authority to Oregon Health Authority to adopt rules as necessary.

SENATE VOTE: Ayes, 22; Nays, 8

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Unintended consequences of past related legislation
- Negative impacts of plastics on the environment
- Single-use plastic product alternatives
- Potential benefits to Oregon timber and milling industries of replacing plastic bags with paper bags

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

In 2019, the Legislative Assembly enacted [House Bill 2509](#), which prohibited retail establishments and restaurants from providing single-use checkout bags to customers. Under current law, retail establishments are authorized to provide recycled paper checkout bags, reusable fabric bags, or reusable plastic checkout bags if they charge a fee no less than five cents. In addition, the Legislative Assembly enacted [Senate Bill 90](#) in 2019, which prohibited a food and beverage provider or a convenience store from providing a single-use plastic straw unless requested by the consumer.