

## **NEWS:**

# **Plastic Bag Ban Passes House**

**May 17, 2019** – By a vote of 33-to-7, the House of Representatives approved a bill Tuesday seeking to ban many Delaware retailers from distributing single-use plastic shopping bags.

[House Bill 130](#) would prohibit larger stores (at least 7,000 sq. ft.), and smaller stores with multiple locations, from issuing the bags starting in 2021.

Before passage, the bill was amended to allow the City of Wilmington to enact its own ordinance mandating that stores in excess of 500 sq. ft. comply with the legislation, should it become law.

According to the National Conference of State Legislatures, only three states -- California, New York, and Hawaii -- have banned single-use plastic shopping bags.

Exceptions to the proposed Delaware ban include bags used to carry produce, meat, fish, potted plants, and dry cleaning. The bill would also continue to allow the use of paper bags.

The legislation is currently pending action in the Senate Natural Resources Committee. If the bill reaches his desk, Gov. John Carney has indicated he will sign it.

