

Introduced _____
Public Hearing _____
Council Action _____
Executive Action _____
Effective Date _____

County Council of Howard County, Maryland

2021 Legislative Session

Legislative Day No. 15

Bill No. 67 -2021

Introduced by: Christiana Rigby and Opel Jones

AN ACT altering the date by which a store must remit the fees collected for disposable bags to the Director of Finance; and generally relating to disposable bag fees in the County.

Introduced and read first time _____, 2021. Ordered posted and hearing scheduled.

By order _____
Michelle R. Harrod, Administrator

Having been posted and notice of time & place of hearing & title of Bill having been published according to Charter, the Bill was read for a second time at a public hearing on _____, 2021.

By order _____
Michelle R. Harrod, Administrator

This Bill was read the third time on _____, 2021 and Passed ____, Passed with amendments _____, Failed _____.

By order _____
Michelle R. Harrod, Administrator

Sealed with the County Seal and presented to the County Executive for approval this ____ day of _____, 2021 at ____ a.m./p.m.

By order _____
Michelle R. Harrod, Administrator

Approved/Vetoed by the County Executive _____, 2021

Calvin Ball, County Executive

NOTE: [[text in brackets]] indicates deletions from existing law; Text in small capitals indicates additions to existing law; Strike-out indicates material deleted by amendment; Underlining indicates material added by amendment.

1 **Section 1. Be it enacted** by the County Council of Howard County, Maryland, that the Howard County
2 Code is hereby amended as follows:

3 By amending:

4 Title 20 – Taxes, Charges, and Fees

5 Subtitle 13. Disposable Bag Fees.

6 Section 20.1302. Duties of Store.

7

8

HOWARD COUNTY CODE

9

Title 20 – Taxes, Charges, and Fees

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Subtitle 13. Disposable Bag Fees

11 **Sec. 20.1302. Duties of store.**

12 (a) *Collection.*

13 (1) Each store that provides a disposable bag to a customer must collect the fee imposed
14 by section 20.1301 of this subtitle when the customer pays for the products placed in
15 the disposable bag.

16 (2) The store must indicate on the customer's receipt the number of disposable bags
17 provided to the customer and the fees collected for the disposable bags.

18 (b) *Remittance.*

19 (1) Subject to paragraph (4) of this subsection, a store shall remit the fees collected under
20 subsection (a) of this section to the Director of Finance [[on or before the store's last
21 business day of each calendar quarter]] QUARTERLY. The store must include with the
22 remittance the information that the Director of Finance requires. FEES COLLECTED
23 DURING EACH CALENDAR YEAR SHALL BE REMITTED ON OR BEFORE THE STORE'S LAST
24 BUSINESS DAY OF THE MONTH ACCORDING TO THE FOLLOWING SCHEDULE.

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REMITTANCE SCHEDULE FOR QUARTERLY FEES COLLECTED BY STORE:

CALENDAR QUARTER	REMITTANCE ON OR BEFORE THE STORE’S LAST BUSINESS DAY OF:
JANUARY THROUGH MARCH	APRIL
APRIL THROUGH JUNE	JULY
JULY THROUGH SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER
OCTOBER THROUGH DECEMBER	JANUARY

(2) To cover the administrative expense of collecting and remitting the fee, the store may retain up to 20 percent of each five-cent fee collected.

(3) If a store does not comply with paragraph (1) of this subsection, the Director of Finance may estimate the remittance due and send a bill to the store at the store's last known address. The store shall pay the bill within ten days after the bill is sent.

(4) A store need not remit the fees collected until the amount collected is at least \$50.00 quarterly.

(5) A store shall hold the fees collected in trust for the County until the store remits the collected fees to the County.

(c) *Records.* Each store shall keep for three years the records required to verify the amounts calculated under this section.

(d) *Signage.* Each store shall post appropriate notices designed to remind customers to use non-disposable bags, including posting at each place where shopping carts are kept for customers and at each place where customers pay. The Director of Finance in consultation with the Office of Community Sustainability may adopt guidelines to carry out this section.

Section 2. *Be it further enacted* by the County Council of Howard County, Maryland, that this Act shall become effective 61 days after its enactment.