RESOLUTION OF WEBB COUNTY, TEXAS

WHEREAS, on June 2, 2014, the Laredo City Council approved the Checkout Bag Reduction Ordinance, No. 2014-O-064,

WHEREAS, 99.4 percent of the Webb County population resides in the City of Laredo, as per 2010 U.S. Census data.

WHEREAS, in December 2003, the Laredo City Council adopted a strategic plan that included a Clean City component which includes a goal to create a "trash free" city; and

WHEREAS, the reduction of litter from one-time-use plastic bags will help bring the City and County one step closer to being a trash-free city and trash-free county; and,

WHEREAS, the results of a city wide survey reveals that big box retail, grocery stores, and convenience stores, are by far, the biggest generator of plastic checkout bag usage; and

WHEREAS, since 1969, while metal, glass, and paper litter decreased by over 80% in the US, plastic litter increased by a staggering 165% making this type of pollution the third most abundant,

WHEREAS, plastic shopping bags are a petroleum product, the production of which contributes to climate change and disposable bags present a unique and pernicious problem for citizens, taxpayers, the environment and wildlife; and

WHEREAS, nationwide recycling rates of either type of single-use bag are extremely low. Studies show that 85-90% of paper bags and 94.8% of plastic bags are not recycled, and,

WHEREAS, plastic bags are not accepted or recycled at the City of Laredo Recycling Center due to the damage that it causes to machinery and sorting equipment; and,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMISSIONERS COURT OF THE COUNTY OF WEBB, THAT:

Section I. The County of Webb supports the passage and implementation of the City of Laredo ordinance to better protect public health, the environment, and taxpayer dollars; and,

Section II. The County of Webb supports this effort to promote the beautification of the City and County through prevention of litter generated from discarded checkout bags; and,

Section III. The County of Webb supports this effort to reduce costs to government entities and private businesses and individuals associated with litter cleanup, maintenance of stormwater infrastructure, and the unquantifiable effect on the environment; and,

Section IV. This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon its passage.

DULY PASSED AND APPROVED this _9_ day of March, 2015 by Webb County Judge Tano Tijerina and the Commissioners Court.

The Honorable Tano E.Tijerina Webb County Judge

Honorable Francisco J. Sciaraffa Commissioner, Precinct 1

Honorable John C. Galo

Commissioner, Precinct 3

Honorable Rosaura "Wawi" Tijerina Commissioner, Precinct 2

Honorable Jaime A. Canales Commissioner, Precinct 4

ATTEST:

Margie Ramirez-Ibarra, Webb County Clerk

By:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Marco Montemayor

Webb County Attorney*

*By law, the County Attorney's Office may only advise or approve contracts or legal documents on behalf of its clients. It may not advise or approve a contract or legal document on behalf of other parties. Our review of this document was conducted solely from the legal perspective of our client. Our approval of this document was offered for the benefit of our client. Other parties should not rely on this approval, and should seek review and approval of their own respective attorney(s).