

UNIVERSITY of  
**HOUSTON**

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

**Label:** UB-60005

**Date introduced:** November 29<sup>th</sup>, 2023

**Author(s):** Pres. Rizk, Sen. Johnson

**Sponsor(s):** Chair Ortega,

**Committee:** Administration and Finance

**Draft:** Final Read

**The Plastic Elimination Act**

**Whereas,** plastic bags are offered at sales check-out at marketplace stores managed by Chartwells;

**Whereas,** the elimination of plastic bags off-campus premises has been a consistent concern voiced by students for years;

**Whereas,** a significant number of students own their own tote bags for carrying groceries and food items;

**Whereas,** aluminum straws are a sustainable alternative to single-use plastic straws;

**Whereas,** the auxiliaries department found an alternative cost-effective biodegradable straw to be used throughout all University of Houston System campuses;

**Whereas,** the Food Service Advisory Committee composed of a membership of student leaders from the Residence Halls Association, Frontier Fiesta, and the Student Government voted unanimously in approval of a transition plan to phase out plastic bags and straws at all campus market stores managed by Chartwells;

**Therefore, be it enacted by the Senate of the Student Government Association of the University of Houston:**

One-time use plastic bags will no longer be offered in campus market stores managed under Chartwells, effective January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024;

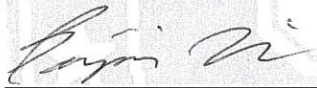
**Be it further enacted**, a reusable paper bag option be offered for purchase until September 1st, 2024;

**Be it further enacted**, a reusable tote bag option be offered for purchase in all campus market stores, effective September 1st, 2024.

**Be it further enacted**, reusable aluminum straws will be offered for purchase in the stores;

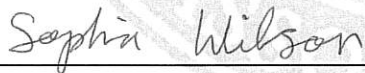
**Be it further enacted**, all campus market stores phase out cash transactions with acceptance of Card, Cougar Cash, ShastaBUCKS, Google Pay, and Apple Pay as acceptable options<sup>1</sup>

**Be it further enacted**, all campus market stores phase out cash transactions with acceptance of Card, Cougar Cash, ShastaBUCKS, Google Pay, and Apple Pay as acceptable options<sup>1</sup>.



Benjamin Rizk  
Student Government President  
Date of President's Approval: 02-18-2024

**APPROVED**



Sophia Wilson  
Speaker Wilson  
Speaker of the Senate  
Date of Senate Approval: 02-18-2024

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.google.com/url?q=https://uh.edu/infotech/services/e-comm/official-email/view.php?sendit%3DaHR0cHM6Ly9jbG91ZGFwcmMudWguZWRR1L3NlbnRpdC93L1REbDJneVp5dzubGdKODkyM1pjRDNhUS9Zbk1RVVcxVkkVY2pOcklENW0welBBL3dIWGs0OGY1QnhKODkydUxKUkh1NGp4dw%3D%3D&sa=D&source=docs&ust=1708300402446134&usg=AOvVaw3VqcpE5c1o4e7eiyz0gqn2>