

Initiative Measure No. 1245

filed January 7, 2013

DON'T TAX OUR CHECKOUT BAGS INITIATIVE

AN ACT Relating to checkout bags; adding new sections to chapter 70.93 RCW; and creating new sections.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

POLICIES AND PURPOSES

NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** Government needs to stop nickeling and diming us to death. During these tough economic times, it is overkill for government to be micromanaging the lives of struggling taxpayers, especially over something so trivial as taxing our checkout bags. With all the tremendous challenges that citizens are facing right now, allow us the minor convenience of receiving the checkout bag of our choice to bring home our purchases without paying an extra tax.

NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 70.93 RCW to read as follows:

No government may impose a tax, fee, or other charge for a paper, plastic, or reusable checkout bag. For the purposes of this chapter, "checkout bag" means a bag that is provided by a retail store to a customer at a point of sale.

NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 70.93 RCW to read as follows:

No government may require grocery stores, businesses, and other establishments to impose a tax, fee, or other charge for a paper, plastic, or reusable checkout bag.

NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** A new section is added to chapter 70.93 RCW to read as follows:

Grocery stores, businesses, and other establishments may provide paper, plastic, or reusable checkout bags, or any combination thereof, to their customers.

NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** This act is known and may be cited as "Don't Tax Our Checkout Bags Initiative."

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