

By Mr. Rosenberg of Amherst, petition of Stanley C. Rosenberg and John W. Olver for legislation to require the production of certain plastic bags of transparent and biodegradable materials. Natural Resources and Agriculture.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Ninety.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO WASTE DISPOSAL BAGS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 94 of the General Laws is amended by
2 adding the following section: —

3 Section 329. Any plastic bag with a capacity of five gallons or
4 more, which is sold for the purpose of containing waste, shall be
5 transparent and shall, after disposal, be completely degraded by
6 microorganisms, provided, however, that the degradation
7 products shall be partially or completely consumed by said
8 microorganisms.

9 For the purposes of this act, “waste” shall mean garbage, refuse,
10 and other discarded material, including, but not limited to solid,
11 liquid, and semisolid material resulting from residential,
12 commercial, or industrial activities.

1 SECTION 2. Any plastic bag with a capacity of five gallons
2 or more, which is sold for the purpose of containing waste, shall
3 be transparent and shall be constructed so as to disintegrate after
4 disposal.

5 For the purposes of this act, “waste” shall mean garbage, refuse,
6 and other discarded material, including, but not limited to solid,
7 liquid, and semisolid material resulting from residential,
8 commercial, or industrial activities.

1 SECTION 3. Section one shall take effect as of January first,
 2 nineteen hundred and ninety-five. Section two shall take effect as
 3 of January first, nineteen hundred and ninety-one, and shall cease
 4 to be in effect as of January first, nineteen hundred and ninety-
 5 five.