

**ANCHORAGE, ALASKA
AO No. 2021-84(S)**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL ASSEMBLY EXTENDING
THE SUSPENSION OF ENFORCEMENT OF ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL CODE
CHAPTER 15.95 TO ALLOW RETAIL SELLERS TO PROVIDE PLASTIC
SHOPPING BAGS DURING COVID-19.**

WHEREAS, Anchorage Municipal Code Chapter 15.95, Plastic Shopping Bags, requires sellers to not provide or distribute plastic shopping bags and to charge a fee for alternative bags; and

WHEREAS, in response to COVID-19 many businesses in Anchorage have switched to curb-side pick-up or delivery, which may prevent individuals from using their reusable bags; and

WHEREAS, many businesses have chosen to limit interactions between employees and customers by not permitting use of personal bags or containers in their establishments; and

WHEREAS, the Anchorage Assembly passed AO 2021-15 on February 23, 2021 suspending enforcement of Anchorage Municipal Code Chapter 15.95 until August 31, 2021;

WHEREAS, an extension of the suspension would be beneficial to allow retailers to continue to utilize their existing stock of plastic bags and to continue limiting contacts between employees and customers; now, therefore,

THE ANCHORAGE ASSEMBLY ORDAINS:

Section 1. Anchorage Municipal Code section 15.95.020 is hereby amended to read as follows (*the remainder of the section is not affected and therefore not set out*):

15.95.020 Prohibition on providing or distributing plastic shopping bags; exceptions.

*** **

E. Suspension. Enforcement of this chapter is suspended until **January 1, 2022** [~~May 1, 2022~~] [AUGUST 31, 2021].

Section 2. This ordinance shall be effective immediately upon passage and approval by the Assembly.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Anchorage Assembly this _____ day of

1 _____, 2021.

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Chair of the Assembly

ATTEST:

Municipal Clerk