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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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January 14, 2013

Donna P. Lopez
Interim City Clerk
Cambridge City Hall
795 Massachusetts Avenue
Cambridge, MA 02139

Dear Ms. Lopez:

Thank you for your letter regarding S. 2314, *An Act relative to plastic bag reduction*, drafted by the Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture based on bills sponsored by Senator Eldridge, and Representatives Smizik and Ehrlich. This bill was referred to Senate Ways and Means, who did not have the opportunity to thoroughly review the bill before the end of the session on December 31, 2012.

As you may know, I have previously filed similar legislation, S. 1463, *An Act relative to the selection and use of plastic carryout bags in certain stores.* This bill would impose a tax for the use of plastic carry out bags in stores that gross over $1 million a year, and create a statewide ban of these bags by 2017. I filed this legislation in 2007-2008, 2009-2010, and again in 2011-2012. I plan to refile this bill during this legislative session.

Sincerely,

BRIAN A. JOYCE
State Senator

BAJ: rsa