

# PLASTIC BAG LEGISLATION IN COASTAL STATES

Many coastal states have placed partial or total bans on single-use plastic bags in efforts to reduce plastic waste in oceans, which has drastically affected consumer purchasing habits. Below are a few coastal states whose new laws are steering some consumers to paper bags.



**California** became the first state to impose a statewide ban on single-use plastic bags at large retailers. Eco-friendly bags must be clearly identifiable and meet certain specifications. Retailers may provide plastic bags for a 10-cent fee to consumers.



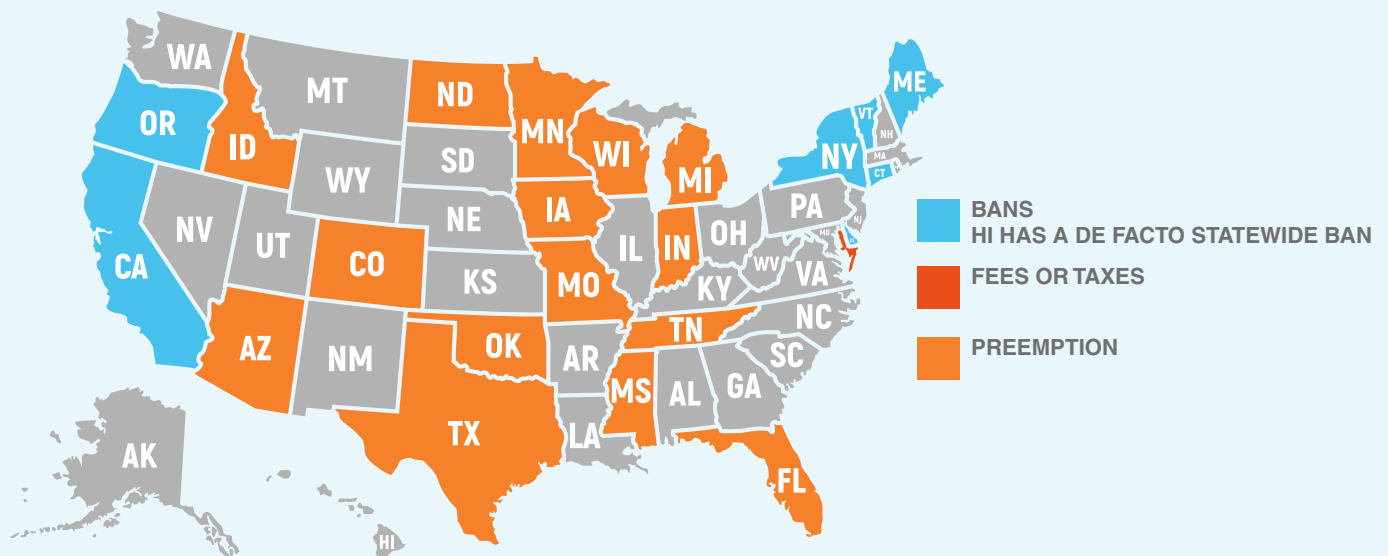
**Maine** created a workgroup comprised of state agencies to provide viable solutions to the checkout bag issue. These solutions aim to achieve environmental benefits, financial viability for manufacturers and avoid cost impacts.



**New York** recently introduced a ban on most single-use plastic bags, forcing some consumers to change to paper or cotton reusable bags. Individual counties can place a 5-cent fee on paper bags, with proceeds benefiting the Environmental Protection Fund.



**Rhode Island** promotes paper bag use by requiring retailers to offer paper bags to consumers. Those retailers still providing plastic bags must also provide receptacles for recycling clean bags.



\*State laws are constantly changing. Check here for any updates on your state's legislation.  
<https://www.ncsl.org/research/environment-and-natural-resources/plastic-bag-legislation.aspx>



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