

HR 3977

Trash Reduction Act of 2015

Congress: 114 (2015–2017, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Taxation

Introduced: Nov 5, 2015

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Water, Power and Oceans.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Water, Power and Oceans. (Nov 13, 2015)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/house-bill/3977>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Lowenthal, Alan S. [D-CA-47]

Party: Democratic • **State:** CA • **Chamber:** House

Cosponsors (10 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Beyer, Donald S., Jr. [D-VA-8]	D · VA		Nov 5, 2015
Rep. Blumenauer, Earl [D-OR-3]	D · OR		Nov 5, 2015
Rep. Farr, Sam [D-CA-20]	D · CA		Nov 5, 2015
Rep. Lee, Barbara [D-CA-13]	D · CA		Nov 5, 2015
Rep. Lieu, Ted [D-CA-33]	D · CA		Nov 5, 2015
Rep. Honda, Michael M. [D-CA-17]	D · CA		Nov 16, 2015
Rep. Huffman, Jared [D-CA-2]	D · CA		Nov 17, 2015
Rep. Pingree, Chellie [D-ME-1]	D · ME		Feb 12, 2016
Del. Norton, Eleanor Holmes [D-DC-At Large]	D · DC		Feb 23, 2016
Rep. Cartwright, Matt [D-PA-17]	D · PA		Mar 2, 2016

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Natural Resources Committee	House	Referred to	Nov 13, 2015
Natural Resources Committee	House	Referred to	Nov 13, 2015
Ways and Means Committee	House	Referred To	Nov 5, 2015

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Taxation

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Trash Reduction Act of 2015

This bill amends the Internal Revenue Code to require retailers to pay a \$0.10 excise tax on each carryout bag provided to a consumer. A "carryout bag" means a bag of any material, commonly plastic or kraft paper, which is provided to a consumer at the point of sale to carry or cover purchases, merchandise, or other items. Reusable bags and certain other bags used for specified purposes are exempt from such tax.

The bill allows retailers who establish a qualified plastic carryout bag recycling program a rebate for each recyclable bag used by the retailer.

The bill establishes the Carryout Bag Trust Fund to hold tax revenues generated by this Act and directs the Department of the Treasury to make payments from such Trust Fund for the qualified plastic carryout bag recycling program and to the Land and Water Conservation Fund established by the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965.

The Government Accountability Office must study and report to Congress on the effectiveness of this Act in reducing the use of carryout bags and encouraging recycling of such bags.

Actions Timeline

- **Nov 13, 2015:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Federal Lands.
- **Nov 13, 2015:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Water, Power and Oceans.
- **Nov 5, 2015:** Introduced in House
- **Nov 5, 2015:** Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Natural Resources, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.