

**Subject:** FW: Submission on the proposed mandatory phase out of single-use plastic shopping bags

**Recipient:** proposed-mandatory-phase-out-of-single-use-plastic-shopping-bags@submissions.mfe.govt.nz

**Sender:** wastefree@mfe.govt.nz

**Date:** 31/08/2018 10:13 AM

-----Original Message----- From:

Sent:

Friday, 17 August 2018 12:24 a.m. To: Wastefree Subject: Submission on the proposed mandatory phase out of single-use plastic shopping bags Dear Hon. Eugenie Sage, I have mixed thoughts about plastic single use bags being banned. On one hand I want to reduce my plastic waste but on the other hand, single-use bags get used at least twice in my household. So now I will be buying bags only to use them once. Then there is the problem in that the bags you buy are a lot thicker than the supermarket bags so I will probably be using more plastic. There is also the problem of keeping my food safe from cross contamination. Say a pack of meat or chicken bleeds onto the reusable bags. And not realizing it infects my fruit, milk, or other foodstuffs. Just how many reusable bags do I need. Can you put the reusable bags in the washing machine or do I have to buy antibiotic spray, I must say I am not happy with that option as bugs are becoming immune to antibiotics. Then there is my carbon footprint all this is going to make a huge increase in my carbon footprint and add considerably to climate change. Like I said I have mixed thoughts about it. Perhaps it would have been better to go after the excess packaging first I mean why do apples, mushrooms, peaches, cherries, avocados and all manner of fruits have to be wrapped in plastic covered polythene trays in the supermarket? I suppose low hanging fruit looks easy I just wish it had been better thought out before they destroy the environment we are supposed to be trying to protect Yours sincerely, Christopher Coulter