

# more than a bag NEWS

SUSTAINABLE SOLUTIONS FOR OUR PLANET

## U.S. backs global plastic production caps and chemical bans in ‘major’ policy shift

**15 August 2024** —According to [Reuters](#), the United States will support a global treaty to cap and restrict new plastic production, as well a list of controlled chemicals, in what is described as a ‘major policy shift’.

An unnamed source ‘close to U.S. negotiations’ is cited in Reuters’ claims countries avoid a ‘patchwork’ of rules that differ from country to country, the U.S. will now back the creation of international criteria, including lists of harmful chemicals and ‘avoidable’ plastic products.

Reuters explains that the shift will bring the country into closer alignment with EU Member States, South Korea, Canada, Rwanda, Peru, and other ‘high-ambition countries. Collectively, they have encouraged the introduction of a cap and reduction on plastic production, as well as restrictions on so-called ‘chemicals of concern’.

Read More: <https://packagingeurope.com/news/us-backs-global-plastic-production-caps-and-chemical-bans-in-major-policy-shift/11744.article>

## California governor signs law banning all plastic shopping bags at grocery stores

**23 September 2024**— “Paper or plastic” will no longer be a choice at grocery store checkout lines in California under a new law signed Sunday by Gov. Gavin Newsom that bans all plastic shopping bags.

California had already banned thin plastic shopping bags at supermarkets and other stores, but shoppers could purchase bags made with a thicker plastic that purportedly made them reusable and recyclable.

The new measure, approved by state legislators last month, bans all plastic shopping bags starting in 2026. Consumers who don’t bring their own bags will now simply be asked if they want a paper bag.

Read More: <https://apnews.com/article/california-plastic-bag-ban-406dedf02b416ad2bb302f498c3bce58>



## Plastic bag bans in the US reduced plastic bag use by billions, study finds

**25 January 2024** - A new report from nonprofits Environment America, U.S. Public Interest Research Group Education Fund and Frontier Group has found that bans on plastic bags around the U.S. have already reduced the number of bags used by billions.

The report, “[Plastic Bag Bans Work](#)”, found that bans in three states — New Jersey, Philadelphia and Vermont — and two cities, Portland, Oregon and Santa Barbara, California, have reduced the number of single-use plastic bags used each year by around 6 billion. According to Environment America, the number of bags saved could go around the planet 42 times.

Read More: <https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2024/01/plastic-bag-bans-reduce-waste/>