

**Polaris K–12 Operational Group**  
**Resolution # 12**  
**On the Support of House Bill 264**  
**Submitted by the Polaris Environmental Club**

**Be it resolved by Operational Group**, that the Polaris Student Body supports House Bill 264, which is “An Act relating to a fee for disposable shopping bags; relating to the sale of reusable shopping bags; relating to the recycling of disposable shopping bags; and providing for an effective date.”

1. **Whereas** disposable plastic grocery bags are a blight upon our environment;
2. **Whereas** most commercial retailers distribute disposable plastic grocery bags at no cost to the consumer;
3. **Whereas** this trend encourages the overuse of disposable plastic grocery bags and enables excessive consumerism, with no regard for the negative and resultant environmental impacts;
4. **Whereas** the state of Alaska lacks suitable recycling facilities to properly care for the waste generated in such a manner;
5. **Whereas** House Bill 264 will establish a tax upon the distribution of disposable plastic grocery bags, if passed;
6. **Whereas** the establishment of such a tax will raise public awareness for the issue, financially discourage the use of disposable plastic grocery bags, encourage the use of reusable alternatives, and contribute to helping protect our environment; and
7. **Whereas** the City of Wasilla has already instituted a ban on disposable plastic bags, and the rest of the state should follow in their example;

**Therefore, be it resolved by Operational Group**, that the Polaris Student Body supports House Bill 264, and moreover does not support the continued usage of disposable plastic grocery bags but instead endorses the establishment of a tax upon such.

**Action Statement:** If passed by Operational Group, the Polaris Environmental Club will send a copy of this resolution and an explanatory message to the Alaska State House of Representatives to publicly offer our support for House Bill 264.