

# City of Galveston

## Proclamation

WHEREAS, Turtle Island Restoration Network and Surfrider Foundation, Galveston Chapter, non-profit 501 (c) (3) organizations, have established the *Bring the Bag* campaign. A community driven partnership to raise awareness of the impact of single-use plastic bags on the environment as well as the impact on tourism and the perception of Galveston Island; and

WHEREAS, the *Bring the Bag* campaign works toward the reduction and elimination of single-use plastic bags in order to create a safer, healthier and cleaner environment; and

WHEREAS, tourism is an important economic activity for Galveston Island, and the perception and image of the island is an integral part of sustaining the economy; and

WHEREAS, single-use bags are a significant source of litter and contribute to flooding by getting stuck in storm drains and reusable bags eliminate over 22,000 plastic bags per person per lifetime; and

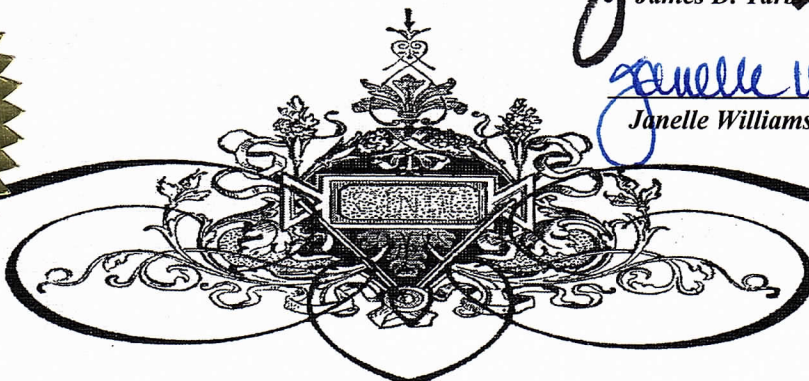
WHEREAS, cleanup of plastic bags is costly and plastic bags do not biodegrade, but, instead, break down into small particles that persist in the ocean, absorb toxins, and enter our food chain through fish, sea birds and other marine life.

WHEREAS, the City of Galveston declares to support the *Bring the Bag* campaign by the following actions: leading our community of tourism industries by encouraging businesses, restaurants and hotels to join; and encouraging contracted vendors to reduce and eliminate single-use plastic bags; and assisting to educate visitors to be good stewards of the environment by marketing the *Bring the Bag* campaign and Galveston as an "eco" destination.

THEREFORE, we the Mayor and the City Council of the City of Galveston do hereby proclaim April 22, 2016 as:

*"Bring the Bag Day"*  
In the City of Galveston

In testimony whereof, witness my hand and the Seal of the City of Galveston, this 24<sup>th</sup> day of March 2016.



*James D. Yarbrough*  
James D. Yarbrough, Mayor

*Janelle Williams*  
Janelle Williams, City Secretary