

Name: _____

BAG BANS

In “Plastic or the Planet?” (p. 8), you read about negative effects from plastic waste. In an effort to reduce the impact of plastic pollution, officials in some states have passed laws that ban or limit single-use plastic bags, such as those you might get at a supermarket or a take-out restaurant. The map below shows the status of plastic bag laws across the country. Study the map, and then answer the questions that follow.



ANALYZE IT

- According to the map, how many states have laws that prevent local governments from creating plastic bag bans?
- What laws about plastic bags, if any, exist in your home state?
- How are the laws concerning plastic bags different in California from those in Colorado?
- Why do you think officials have focused on plastic bags for legislation? Use evidence from the article to support your answer.
- Do you think your state should pass laws regarding plastic bags or other single-use plastics? On a separate piece of paper, write a 200- to 250-word persuasive essay that states your opinion. Include evidence from the article to support your argument.