

Date of Hearing: August 20, 2025

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Buffy Wicks, Chair

SB 731 (Archuleta) – As Amended July 3, 2025

Policy Committee: Transportation

Vote: 16 - 0

Urgency: No

State Mandated Local Program: No

Reimbursable: No

SUMMARY:

This bill extends an existing exemption for trash receptacles and storage containers with reflectors added before January 1, 2025, from the requirement to be made of certain high-performance retroreflective sheeting and of a specified length and number of reflectors, and adds red, white or alternating red and white tape as one of the required tape options for high-performance retroreflective sheeting for a storage container transported by truck and trailer.

FISCAL EFFECT:

Minor state costs, if any.

COMMENTS:

In 2022, the Legislature approved SB 1111 (Archuleta), Chapter 244, Statutes of 2022, to require a person who sells, or provides for compensation, a trash or storage bin designed to be placed on the side of the road or curb to be emptied to mark the bin with a reflector on each side, beginning on January 1, 2025. Owners of bins purchased before the marking requirement took effect have until January 1, 2026, to add reflectors to their bins. The law also requires bin owners, beginning January 1, 2025, to mark their bins with their name and telephone number to ensure they can be contacted in the case of violations. SB 1111 provides that a violation of the reflector and labeling requirements is an infraction, unless the owner or seller is a local government entity, punishable by an escalating fine: \$100 for the first violation, \$500 for the second violation, and \$1,000 for the third and any subsequent violations.

In 2023, the Legislature approved SB 806 (Archuleta), Chapter 244, Statutes of 2023, which made largely technical update to SB 1111.

The author describes this bill as part of his ongoing effort to better guarantee public safety by ensuing trash dumpsters on the side of the road are marked with reflectors. According to the author:

In 2022 Senator Archuleta passed SB 1111, the Rick Best Safety Act, named after Rodrick “Rick” Best, who worked as a legislative staffer and lobbyist in Sacramento for years. Sadly, Rick passed away after a traffic accident where he collided with an unmarked trash dumpster in the roadway. SB 1111 required a person who sells, or provides for compensation, a trash receptacle or storage container designed to be

placed on the side of the road or curb to mark the bin with a reflector on each side by January 1st 2026....Some actors in the industry, who were already voluntarily placing reflective markings on their containers prior to any bills, are struggling to update their entire fleets in order to meet the requirements of SB 806. This bill would allow them to comply with the reflective marking requirements going forward with any new purchases of trash or storage containers without being unnecessarily penalized for existing containers.

This bill is supported by several waste management businesses and related entities. There is no opposition registered to this bill.

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