Alderman Chantia Lewis announces that the shopping cart resolution she introduced passed through Milwaukee’s Public Safety Committee yesterday. The resolution will now move onto the Common Council for a full vote on February 6.

If passed, it would fine owners and residents who remove, or allow for the removal of shopping carts on the premises. Fines would start at $50 a cart with a maximum penalty of up to $250 a year, depending on the number of carts retrieved. If a company takes active measures to retrieve their own carts, they may not be fined. The resolution also requires that companies providing 25 carts or more have anti-theft measures after 100 retrievals of abandoned carts by the Department of Public Works.

A council study found that abandoned shopping carts were creating blight in neighborhoods, reducing property values, and obstructing pedestrian and vehicular traffic, and creating a health, safety, and general welfare issue for the city.

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