



Senate Bill 54/ Assembly Bill 1080: Single-Use Packaging and Products



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with Senators Skinner, Stern and Wiener,

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IN BRIEF

SB 54/AB 1080 will ensure California is on the forefront of reducing pollution from single-use plastic packaging and products. The bills set ambitious waste reduction and recycling goals and establish a framework for packaging producers to keep the most problematic plastic disposable items out of our environment, saving local governments millions of dollars in disposal costs and protecting our environment.

BACKGROUND

Every day, single-use packaging and products in California, particularly those made of plastic, generate tons of non-recyclable and non-compostable waste impacting our health, natural environment, and local governments.

Plastic pollution starts with fossil fuel extraction to create plastic and affects individuals, communities, and ecosystems all along the supply chain; from when the products are manufactured, transported, and used, to when they degrade and emit greenhouse gases or impact the environment as litter. Oil refineries, plastic manufacturers and incinerators tend to be located in low income communities, which then must bear the brunt of the associated health impacts from industry, such as higher asthma rates. With a planned 40-percent increase in plastic production over the next decade, plastic production will account for 20 percent of global fossil fuel consumption unless we make major policy changes to significantly counter this. Packaging accounts for 42 percent of all non-fiber plastic produced.

Unlike natural materials that decompose, nearly every piece of plastic ever produced still exists in our landfills or in the environment. As these items fragment into smaller particles, they concentrate toxic chemicals and contaminate our food and drinking water sources. Exposure has been linked to cancers, birth defects, impaired immunity, endocrine disruption and other serious health problems.

While the state and local communities in California have tried to reduce the burden from single-use packaging since the 1980s, taxpayers and local governments still spend over \$420 million annually in ongoing efforts to clean up and prevent litter in streets, storm drains, parks and waterways. Not only is cleanup expensive, but it cannot keep pace with the production of single-use items, which continues to grow exponentially.

Less than 9 percent of plastic is recycled, and that percentage is dropping since the implementation of China's National Sword and policies in other countries, which severely restricted the amount of foreign waste these countries accept. These materials are now either piling up in recycling centers, being landfilled, or sent to illegal facilities in Southeast Asia where they are incinerated, or simply dumped in impoverished areas where it is never dealt with. California must reduce the amount of single use plastics as a result of these realities.

We can no longer afford to wait on this issue. This is why the European Union and other countries that are major purchasers of consumer goods are implementing comprehensive waste reduction frameworks which urge producers to share in the responsibility of reducing waste and designing products to be reusable, recyclable and/or compostable. As the world's fifth-largest economy, California has a responsibility to lead on solutions to the growing plastic pollution crisis.

SOLUTION

SB 54/AB 1080 establish a comprehensive framework to address the pollution and waste crisis and set a statewide goal of ensuring that manufacturers reduce the waste generated by single-use plastic packaging and food ware products by 75% by 2032 through source reduction, recycling, and composting. Specifically, the bills do the following:

- Require producers to design their plastic packaging to reduce unnecessary waste and be fully recyclable or compostable by 2032, as well as meet specified recycling rates over time.

- Require that priority single-use plastic food service ware products, including plates, bowls, cups, utensils, stirrers, and straws be source reduced, and manufactured with only recyclable or compostable material by 2032.
- Require CalRecycle to conduct a robust stakeholder process to develop regulations to guide producers in complying with these requirements, and to establish incentives and policies to encourage in-state manufacturing using recycled material generated in California.

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 East Bay Municipal Utilities District
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 Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors
 Los Angeles County Division of the League of California Cities
 Marin County Council of Mayors and Councilmembers
 Mayor Darrell Steinberg, City of Sacramento
 RecycleSmart (Central Contra Costa County Solid Waste Authority)
 Rethink Waste (South Bayside Waste Management Authority)
 Rural County Representatives of California
 San Francisco Department of the Environment
 San Luis Obispo County Integrated Waste Management Authority
 StopWaste (Alameda County Waste Management Authority)

SUPPORT

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Labor Unions & Advocates

Communication Workers of America District 9, AFL- CIO
 International Longshore and Warehouse Union (ILWU)
 ILWU Local 13
 ILWU Local 63
 ILWU Local 94
 La Cooperativa Campesina
 Los Angeles Alliance for a New Economy
 Service Employees International Union California
 Teamsters Local Union No. 396
 California Teamsters Public Affairs Council

Businesses

California Grocers Association
Hollywood Chamber of Commerce
Pacific Grove Chamber of Commerce
San Francisco Chamber of Commerce
Alvarado Street Brewery & Grill
American Sustainable Business Council
Anna Kauffman, Inc.
Blue Plate
Bon Appétit Management Company
California Cannabis Coalition
ChicoBag
Colorado Medical Waste, Inc.
Communitas Financial Planning
Conscious Container
Dillon Beach Resort
Distance Learning Consulting
Dr. Bronner's
E2 | Environmental Entrepreneurs
Eco-pliant
Eco Imprints
FinalStraw
FullCycle
Global Eclipse
GOODONYA®
Goodr
GoodLight Natural Candles
Green Century
Green Mary - Zero Waste Events
Green Retirement, Inc.
Green Valley Community Farm
Guitarfish Music Festival
Harley Laguna Beach
Jeux De Vagues
Joshua Tree Music Festival
Kasperorganics
Kite Music Productions/Flying Kite Motion Pictures
Lockbox Productions
Lydia's Kind Foods, Inc.
MD Global
MoneyVoice
Owl Post Calligraphy
Paddle Method
Pharmacists Planning Services, Inc.
Pier 23 Café Restaurant & Bar
Ponce's Mexican Restaurant
R3 Consulting Group, Inc.
Refill Madness, LLC
Repurpose
Robin's Restaurant
S. Groner Associates, Inc.
Seventh Generation
Shark Lock Bags
Shizen & Tataki Restaurants
SIC Productions Inc
Six Rivers Brewery
Smart Planet Technologies
Steelys Drinkware
Symbiosis Gathering

The Little Chihuahua Mexican Restaurants
Tiger!Tiger!
To-Go Ware
TOMRA Systems ASA
Tonic Nightlife Group
Waste Busters, Inc.
World Centric

Solid Waste & Recycling Industry

California Local Conservation Corps
C&S Waste Solutions
CR&R Environmental Services
LA Hauler
Monterey Regional Waste Management District
Napa Recycling & Waste Services
Pacific Recycling Solutions
Recology
Republic Services

Public Health Organizations

Breast Cancer Prevention Partners
California Association of Environmental Health Administrators
Center for Climate Change and Health
Center For Environmental Health
Physicians for Social Responsibility Los Angeles
Public Health Advocates
San Francisco Bay Area Physicians for Social Responsibility

Civic and Public Interest Advocates

California Alliance for Retired Americans
CALPIRG
Civic Sundays
Consumer Action
Consumer Watchdog
Democrats of Pasadena Foothills
Feminists in Action
Latinos in Action
League of Women Voters of California
Long Beach Gray Panthers

Faith-Based Organizations

California Catholic Conference
California Interfaith Power & Light
Lutheran Office of Public Policy - California
St. Francis Center

Other

California Academy of Science
The Marine Mammal Center
Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History
Individual Scientists

Environmental Groups

Algalita Marine Research and Education
As You Sow
Audubon California
Azul
Ban Single Use Plastics (SUP)
Brent Allen Outside

California Coastal Protection Network
California Coastkeeper Alliance
California Compost Coalition
California League of Conservation Voters
California ReLEAF
California Resource Recovery Association
California State Parks Foundation
California Urban Streams Partnership
Californians Against Waste
Center for Biological Diversity
Center for Oceanic Awareness, Research and Education
Cigarette Butt Pollution Project
Clean Water Action
Coastodian
Communications4Good
Communities for Sustainable Monterey County
Community Environmental Council
Conejo Valley Audubon Society
Defenders of Wildlife
Earthjustice
East Yard Communities for Environmental Justice
Ecology Center
Environment California
Environmental Defense Center
Environmental Justice Coalition for Water
Environmental Working Group
Friends Committee on Legislation of California
Friends of the Earth
Friends of the Los Angeles River
Full Circle Environmental, Inc.
Global Alliance for Incinerator Alternatives (GAIA)
Greenpeace
Heal the Bay
Heirs to Our Oceans
Hillcrest Indivisible
Indivisible Alta-Pasadena
Indivisible CA: Statestrong
Indivisible California Green Team
Indivisible Eagle Rock
Indivisible Media City Burbank
Indivisible South Bay LA
Indivisible Statestrong
Indivisible Ventura
Inland Ocean Coalition
Leadership & Strategy for Sustainable Systems
League to Save Lake Tahoe
Long Beach Environmental Alliance
Los Angeles Waterkeeper
Monterey Bay Aquarium
National Parks Conservation Association
National Stewardship Action Council
Natural Resources Council of Maine
Natural Resources Defense Council
No Plastic Oceans
Northcoast Environmental Center
Northern California Recycling Association
Oceana
Ocean Analytics
Ocean Conservancy

Ocean Conservation Society
Outdoor Outreach
Pacific Forest Trust
Pacoima Beautiful
Plastic Oceans International
Plastic Pollution Coalition
Resources Legacy Fund
Rooted in Resistance
Rose Foundation for Communities and the Environment
San Diego 350
San Francisco Baykeeper
San Francisco Wildlife Rescue
Save Our Shores
Save The Bay
SeaLegacy
Sea Hugger
Seventh Generation Advisors
Shafir Environmental
Sierra Club California
Sierra Nevada Alliance
Sierra Leadership
Sonoma County Farm Trails
Surfrider Foundation
Sustainable Environmental Management Co.
Sustain LA
TDC Environmental, LLC
The 5 Gyres Institute
The Last Plastic Straw
The Nature Conservancy
The River Project
The Story of Stuff Project
The Watershed Project
TreePeople
Trust for Public Land
Turtle Island Restoration Network
Valley Improvement Projects
Wholly H2O
WILD COAST
Wishtoyo Chumash Foundation
Women's Voices for Earth
Yggdrasil Urban Wildlife Rescue of Oakland
Zero Waste Sonoma
Zero Waste USA
350 Bay Area Action
350 Riverside
350 South Bay Los Angeles
350 SoCal Climate Action
350 Sacramento
350 Silicon Valley

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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