

ALBANY CALIFORNIA



CITY OF ALBANY
1000 SAN PABLO AVENUE
ALBANY, CA 94706
www.AlbanyCA.org

February 10, 2020

The Honorable Ben Allen
California State Senator
State Capitol Building, Room 4076
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SB 54 (Allen): California Circular Economy and Plastic Pollution Reduction Act, Notice of SUPPORT (As Amended 9/9/2019)

Dear Senator Allen:

On behalf of the Albany City Council, I want to express Albany's **support of SB 54** (Allen), the California Circular Economy and Plastic Pollution Reduction Act. This bill directs the California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) to adopt regulations before January 1, 2024 that require producers, which includes the people who manufacture single-use packaging or priority single-use products, to achieve a 75 percent reduction of waste generated from single-use packaging and priority single-use plastic products in the California market by 2030.

SB 54 also requires CalRecycle, by January 1, 2023 and before the adoption of regulations, to finalize an implementation plan that will be comprised of extensive outreach with stakeholders, including local governments. This will give local governments a voice in the creation of the forthcoming regulations to address potential implementation challenges.

Additionally, the implementation plan includes developing incentives and policies to maximize and encourage in-state manufacturing using recycled material generated in California. Developing these incentives will address the lack of recycling markets in California, as recyclable materials once shipped overseas are now piling up with nowhere to go.

In December 2019, the City of Albany City Council unanimously adopted a new Climate Action and Adaptation Plan (CAAP) that aims to help the City reach carbon neutrality by 2045. The CAAP includes a section focusing on reducing consumption-based emissions and facilitating a carbon-free economy. Actions within this section include providing incentives

and implementing policies that reduce overall consumption of carbon-intensive goods and single-use items, decrease the amount of waste sent to landfills, and influence upstream consumer habits. While behavior change is challenging, many community members and local businesses are already taking positive actions to reduce their individual carbon footprints, and to reduce packaging and overall waste output. By reducing packaging waste and increasing use of post-consumer recycled materials at a larger scale, AB 1080 and SB 54 would further reduce the embodied carbon of materials and overall waste output in Albany, helping Albany achieve its goals of zero waste and zero carbon by 2045.

Cities, like ours, have dedicated significant time and resources to develop and implement their recycling programs and want to ensure city recycling programs continue to be successful. SB 54 will help local governments recycle more materials, throw less waste into landfills, and advance towards meeting statewide solid waste and recycling goals. The City of Albany is supportive of meeting these goals and applauds your leadership on this issue.

For these reasons, the City of Albany supports SB 54.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nick Pilch', written in a cursive style.

Nick Pilch
Mayor
City of Albany

CC: Senator Nancy Skinner (senator.skinner@senate.ca.gov)
Assembly Member Buffy Wicks (Assemblymember.wicks@assembly.ca.gov)
Governor Gavin Newsom
Sam Caygill, East Bay Division, League of California Cities, scaygill@cacities.org
League of California Cities (Via email: cityletters@cacities.org)

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February 10, 2020

The Honorable Lorena Gonzalez
California State Assembly
State Capitol Building, Room 2114
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 1080 (Gonzalez): California Circular Economy and Plastic Pollution Reduction Act, Notice of SUPPORT (As Amended 9/9/2019)

Dear Assembly Member Gonzalez:

On behalf of the Albany City Council, I want to express Albany's **support of AB 1080** (Gonzalez), the California Circular Economy and Plastic Pollution Reduction Act. This bill directs the California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) to adopt regulations before January 1, 2024 that require producers, which includes the people who manufacture single-use packaging or priority single-use products, to achieve a 75 percent reduction of waste generated from single-use packaging and priority single-use plastic products in the California market by 2030.

AB 1080 also requires CalRecycle, by January 1, 2023 and before the adoption of regulations, to finalize an implementation plan that will be comprised of extensive outreach with stakeholders, including local governments. This will give local governments a voice in the creation of the forthcoming regulations to address potential implementation challenges.

Additionally, the implementation plan includes developing incentives and policies to maximize and encourage in-state manufacturing using recycled material generated in California. Developing these incentives will address the lack of recycling markets in California, as recyclable materials once shipped overseas are now piling up with nowhere to go.

In December 2019, the City of Albany City Council unanimously adopted a new Climate Action and Adaptation Plan (CAAP) that aims to help the City reach carbon neutrality by 2045. The CAAP includes a section focusing on reducing consumption-based emissions and facilitating a carbon-free economy. Actions within this section include providing incentives and implementing policies that reduce overall consumption of carbon-intensive goods and single-use items, decrease the amount of waste sent to landfills, and influence upstream

consumer habits. While behavior change is challenging, many community members and local businesses are already taking positive actions to reduce their individual carbon footprints, and to reduce packaging and overall waste output. By reducing packaging waste and increasing use of post-consumer recycled materials at a larger scale, AB 1080 and SB 54 would further reduce the embodied carbon of materials and overall waste output in Albany, helping Albany achieve its goals of zero waste and zero carbon by 2045.

Cities, like ours, have dedicated significant time and resources to develop and implement their recycling programs and want to ensure city recycling programs continue to be successful. AB 1080 will help local governments recycle more materials, throw less waste into landfills, and advance towards meeting statewide solid waste and recycling goals. The City of Albany is supportive of meeting these goals and applauds your leadership on this issue.

For these reasons, the City of Albany supports AB 1080.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nick Pilch", written in a cursive style.

Nick Pilch
Mayor
City of Albany

CC: Senator Nancy Skinner (senator.skinner@senate.ca.gov)
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