SB 54

Plastic Pollution Prevention and Packaging Producer Responsibility Act

California's Packaging Challenge

Nearly every consumer product comes wrapped in packaging.

Packaging is about 25% of waste landfilled in California.

To address packaging issues producers must reduce how much packaging they use and make sure it gets recycled.

The Most Sweeping Plastic Pollution Reduction Law in US

Senate Bill 54 (SB 54, Allen, Chapter 75, Statutes of 2022) established the Plastic Pollution Prevention and Packaging Producer Responsibility Act.

This law sets the first specific source reduction goals in US history, a critical step to build a circular, reuse economy.

Shifts Packaging Pollution Burden from Consumers to Producers

The legislation shifts the plastic pollution burden from consumers -- who currently pay for landfilling and pollution clean up -- to the plastics industry. It raises $5 billion from industry members over 10 years to help cut plastic pollution and support disadvantaged communities hurt most by the damage of plastic waste.

SB 54 Regulatory Requirements

This packaging reform law requires by 2032:

- 25% of Plastic Packaging Cut
- 65% of Single-Use Packaging Recycled
- 100% Packaging in California Recyclable
Producers Must Ensure Packaging Sold in California Is Recyclable

The bill directs producers to create a Producer Responsibility Organization (PRO) and to implement an EPR program in which producers to design, fund, and operate a statewide program that properly collects and recycles or composites their discarded products.

SB 54 Program Implementation Timeline

- **2022**: Gov. Newsom Signs SB 54 into Law
- **2023**: CalRecycle to appoint members of Advisory Group
- **2024**: Publish list of recyclable/compostable categories
- **2025**: CalRecycle Report to Legislature, SB 54 Regulations Completed
- **2026**: Publish recycling rates by Jan. 1, 2026
- **2027**: 30% of plastic packaging recycled
- **2028**: 40% of plastic packaging recycled
- **2030**: 100% of packaging is recyclable or compostable
- **2032**: 65% of plastic packaging recycled, 25% less plastic packaging sold

CalRecycle

- Oversees Program
- Publishes Advisory Board
- Researches Packaging Waste Types
- Feedback on Plan and Budget
- Enrolls Manufacturers

Cal Recycle

- Cuts Trash Pollution in Disadvantaged Communities

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