



July 29, 2022

TO: Members, Senate Appropriations Committee

FROM: RJ Cervantes, on behalf of California Chamber of Commerce

**SUBJECT: AB 2026 (FRIEDMAN) RECYCLING: PLASTIC PACKAGING  
OPPOSE – AS AMENDED JUNE 23, 2022  
SCHEDULED FOR HEARING AUGUST 1, 2022**

The California Chamber of Commerce and the organizations listed respectfully oppose **AB 2026 (Friedman)**.

The California Chamber of Commerce and the organizations listed respectfully oppose **AB 2026 (Friedman)** as amended on June 23, 2022, which is the most current version of the bill in print.

As you know, the Legislature recently passed SB 54, which creates the most comprehensive packaging and plastics related recycling and waste reduction laws in the United States. SB 54 will set recycling rate requirements for plastic packaging; require the producer responsibility organization (PRO) to meet a 25% “source reduction” requirement; and require producers to support a \$500 million environmental mitigation fund.

Imposing a separate new regulatory requirement for a specific packaging type and application will unnecessarily add to the compliance burden for the regulated community under SB 54 and further increase the implementation costs for CalRecycle. The exact same packaging materials covered in AB 2026 are subject to the requirements in SB 54. Simply put, AB 2026 is now unnecessary given the passage of SB 54.

We urge the Committee to oppose AB 2026 and allow SB 54 time to be fully implemented by CalRecycle and followed by impacted industries.

Sincerely,

*RJ Cervantes*

RJ Cervantes, Fernández Cervantes Government Affairs on behalf of California Chamber of Commerce

*On behalf of the following organizations:*

Air Conditioning, Heating & Refrigeration Institute, Dawn Koepke  
American Apparel & Footwear Association, Nate Herman  
American Chemistry Council, Tim Shestek  
American Cleaning Institute, Jeff Leacox  
Ameripen, Dan Felton  
Association of Home Appliance Manufacturers, Jacob Cassidy  
Auto Care Association, Gary Conover  
California Business Roundtable, Natalie Boust  
California Chamber of Commerce, Adam Regele  
California League of Food Producers, Trudi Hughes  
California Manufacturers & Technology Association, Robert Spiegel  
California Retailers Association, Steve McCarthy  
CAWA - Representing the Auto Parts Industry, Gary Conover  
Civil Justice Association of California, Jaime Huff  
Consumer Technology Association, RJ Cervantes  
EPS Industry Alliance, Walter Reiter  
Flexible Packaging Association, Sam Schlaich  
National Federation of Independent Business, Kevin Pedrotti  
National Marine Manufacturers Association, Mark Smith  
Personal Care Products Council, Mandy Lee  
Plastics Industry Association, Matt Seaholm  
Pregis, Jonathan Quinn  
Tekni-Plex Industries, Thomas Sheehy  
The Toy Association, Erin Raden  
Western Plastics Association, Laurie Hansen

cc: Jim Metropulos, Office of Assembly Member Friedman  
Ashley Ames, Senate Committee on Appropriations  
Morgan Branch, Senate Republican Caucus  
Legislative Consultant, Office of the Governor

RC:gg