



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