



April 24, 2023

The Honorable Luz Rivas, Chair
California State Assembly Natural Resources Committee
1020 N Street, Room 164
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: Assembly Bill 1526 (Natural Resources Committee) – SUPPORT
As Amended April 20, 2023**

Dear Assembly Member Rivas:

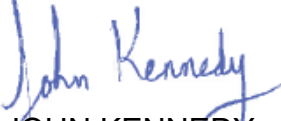
On behalf of the Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC) and League of California Cities (CalCities), we support Assembly Bill 1526, the Assembly Natural Resources Committee Bill.


Assembly Bill 1526 makes several minor, but important clarifying changes to last year's Senate Bill 54 (Allen, Chapter 75, Statutes of 2022), which establishes a comprehensive program for collection, management, and recycling of single use packaging and single-use plastic food service ware.

Several clarifications were sought by our organizations and agreed upon by stakeholders last year, but could not be incorporated into the final version of SB 54 because of time and scheduling constraints. Some of those changes provide flexibility by correctly reflecting that not all collection processes and mechanisms will involve curbside collection. Other modifications clarify that the producer responsibility organization's plan must include a mechanism and schedule for transferring funds to local jurisdictions to reimburse locals for the costs of program implementation, as is the foundational requirement of SB 54. These are important clarifications that will go a long way to ensuring that SB 54 can be implemented effectively and equitably.

For these reasons, we are pleased to support AB 1526. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at jkennedy@rcrcnet.org or nromo@calcities.org.

Sincerely,


JOHN KENNEDY
Policy Advocate
RCRC


NICK ROMO
Legislative Representative
CalCities

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cc: Members of the Assembly Natural Resources Committee
Lawrence Lingbloom, Chief Consultant, Assembly Natural Resources Committee
Casey Dunn, Consultant, Assembly Republican Caucus