



September 14, 2023

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Governor, State of California
1021 O Street, Suite 9000
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Assembly Bill 1526 (Natural Resources Committee) – REQUEST FOR SIGNATURE

Dear Governor Newsom:

On behalf of the Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC), League of California Cities (CalCities), and the California State Association of Counties (CSAC) we respectfully request your signature on Assembly Bill 1526, the Assembly Natural Resources Committee Bill.

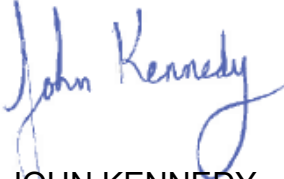
Assembly Bill 1526 makes several minor, but important clarifying changes to last year's Senate Bill 54 (Allen, Chapter 75, Statutes of 2022), which establishes a comprehensive program for collection, management, and recycling of single use packaging and single-use plastic food service ware.

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 respectfully request your signature on Assembly Bill 1526. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at jkennedy@rcrcnet.org, msparkskranz@calcities.org, or awaelder@counties.org.

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Sincerely,



JOHN KENNEDY
Policy Advocate
RCRC



MELISSA SPARKS-KRANZ
Legislative Representative
Cal Cities



ADA AWELDER
Legislative Advocate
CSAC

cc: The Honorable Luz Rivas, Chair, Assembly Natural Resources Committee