April 23, 2018

The Honorable Ben Allen
California State Senate
State Capitol, Room 5072
Sacramento, CA 95814


Dear Senator Allen:

On behalf of the City of Long Beach, I write to support SB 1335 (Allen). This bill would enact the Sustainable Packaging for the State of California Act of 2018. As of January 1, 2021, the Act would prohibit a food service facility in a state agency or facility such as a state park or state beach, from dispensing prepared food to a customer using disposable food service packaging unless the type of disposable food service is suitably recovered for recycling or composting at a rate of 75% or more. This bill is in line with the City of Long Beach’s efforts to reduce single-use packaging in our City.

Long Beach has made it a priority to reduce single-use packaging in our City, first by banning single-use plastic bags in 2011, and most recently by banning polystyrene to benefit our community and environment. On April 17, 2018, the Long Beach City Council unanimously approved a local ordinance to phase in a ban on polystyrene products over the course of the next 18 months. Long Beach’s ordinance prohibits the use of single-use food and beverage containers made of expanded polystyrene foam, rigid polystyrene #6, as well as non-recyclable food and beverage containers.

SB 1335 is consistent with the City’s environmental values. Long Beach appreciates that SB 1335 does not prohibit a city or county from adopting and enforcing more expansive single-use-take-out food ordinances, regulations, or policies than that proposed by this Act.

Given these reasons, the City of Long Beach strongly supports SB 1335 (Allen).

Sincerely,

Mayor Robert Garcia
City of Long Beach

cc: The Honorable Speaker Anthony Rendon, State Assembly
    The Honorable Senator Ben Allen, State Senate, 26th District
    The Honorable Steven Bradford, State Senate, 35th District
    The Honorable Ricardo Lara, State Senate, 33rd District
    The Honorable Janet Nguyen, State Senate, 34th District
    The Honorable Mike Gipson, State Assembly, 64th District
    The Honorable Patrick O’Donnell, State Assembly, 70th District