



CITY OF LONG BEACH

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

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PATRICK H. WEST
CITY MANAGER

May 31, 2019

The Honorable Ben Allen
California State Senate
State Capitol, Room 4076
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Support for SB 54 (Allen) California Circular Economy and Plastic Pollution Reduction Act

Dear Senator Allen:

On behalf of the City of Long Beach (City), I write in support of Senate Bill 54 (Allen). On April 9, 2019, the Long Beach City Council voted unanimously to support this legislation. SB 54 proposes to require at least 75 percent of the State's distributed single-use products be source reduced or recycled by 2030. As a City that is committed to environmental responsibility, the City supports this bill.

As a coastal city with seven miles of beaches and two rivers, the City recognizes the impact of consumer products to the environment. For this and other health reasons, in May 2018, the Long Beach City Council unanimously approved the addition of Chapter 8.63 to its Municipal Code prohibiting businesses from using single-use food and beverage containers made of polystyrene, non-recyclable and non-compostable materials for prepared food distribution. One year later, and as of May 2019, 60 food providers in Long Beach have been recognized for supporting a Foam Free Long Beach. By December 3, 2019, the City will ensure all food providers use food containers that are free of polystyrene and rigid polystyrene #6 and recyclable or compostable. The City recognizes this as being one step forward to addressing a larger issue involving waste, which SB 54 does.

The City supports legislation that promotes an environmentally responsible approach to consumerism with the intent of reducing packaging waste and single-use disposable goods. The City intends to work with CalRecycle to implement actions designed to reasonably phase out distribution of single-use disposables. SB 54 provides a mechanism to facilitate this effort and is essential to preserving the State's environment.

Given these reasons, the City of Long Beach supports AB 54 (Allen).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "P. West".

Patrick H. West
CITY MANAGER

cc: The Honorable Speaker Anthony Rendon, State Assembly
The Honorable Tom Umberg, State Senate, 34th District
The Honorable Steven Bradford, State Senate, 35th District
The Honorable Mike Gipson, State Assembly, 64th District
The Honorable Patrick O'Donnell, State Assembly, 70th District