



MAYOR ROBERT GARCIA
CITY OF LONG BEACH

May 25, 2021

The Honorable Sydney Kamlager
California State Senate
State Capitol, Room 4062
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Support for AB 962 (Kamlager)—California Beverage Container Recycling and Litter Reduction Act: Reusable Beverage Containers

Dear Senator Kamlager,

On behalf of the City of Long Beach, I write to support AB 962. This bill proposes to include reusable beverage containers in the California Beverage Container and Litter Reduction Act. As a coastal city with seven miles of beaches and two rivers, the City recognizes the impact of single-use consumer products on the environment, and AB 962 will help reduce waste statewide.

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. As of October 2020, all retail and commercial food containers in Long Beach are free of polystyrene and rigid polystyrene #6. The ordinance aims to prevent waste, decrease single-use disposable materials, and clarify the City's waste stream disposal guidelines. AB 962 will further the City's efforts to reduce single-use consumer waste.

Long Beach is a leader in advancing sustainability and, as such, the City is in the process of finalizing a Climate Action and Adaptation Plan (CAAP) to help reduce greenhouse gas emissions and prepare for the impacts of climate change. AB 962 would advance the City's CAAP to increase beneficial reuse of waste products and achieve statewide waste diversion goals.

The City supports legislation in alignment with the State's climate action initiatives, in addition to proposals that promote environmentally responsible approaches to consumer goods. AB 962 would contribute toward waste reduction and climate action efforts. Given these reasons, the City supports AB 962.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert Garcia".

Mayor Robert Garcia
City of Long Beach

cc: The Honorable Speaker Anthony Rendon, State Assembly
The Honorable Lena Gonzalez, State Senate, 33rd District
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