

SPONSORS

May 18, 2017

PRESIDENT'S CIRCLE
CalRecycle

Senator Ricardo Lara
Chair, Senate Appropriations Committee
California State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814
Fax: 916-651-4933

GOLD
City of San Diego
Republic Services
StopWaste

Re: SB 705 (Allen) Solid waste: expanded polystyrene food service containers – SUPPORT

SILVER

Dear Chair Lara,

Allan Company
Athens Services
Cascadia Consulting
Services
California Refuse
Recycling Council
EcoNomics
City of Fremont
Global Disposal
HF&H Consultants
Marin Sanitary Services
PSSI/Stanford Recycling
R3 Consulting
Recology
South Bayside Waste
Management Authority
Tetrattech
Waste Management
Zanker Recycling

California Resource Recovery Association urges your support of Senate Bill 705 (Allen), as amended April 26. SB 705 is a measure which would phase out takeout food packaging that cannot be either recycled or composted in the communities where it is distributed.

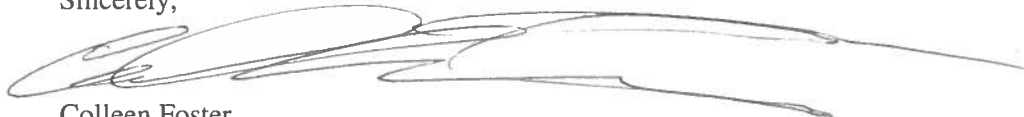
CRRA is California's state-wide recycling association. It is the oldest and one of the largest non-profit recycling organizations in the United States. A 501(c)(3) organization, CRRA is dedicated to achieving environmental sustainability in and beyond California through Zero Waste strategies including product stewardship, waste prevention, reuse, recycling and composting. CRRA advances local, regional and state-wide waste reduction efforts which result in critical environmental and climate protection outcomes. Our members represent all aspects of California's reduce-reuse-recycle-compost economy. They work for cities and counties, as well as hauling companies, material processors, non-profit organizations, state agencies, and in allied professions.

Up to 80% of ocean pollution is litter from urban runoff, and non-recyclable single-use food packaging is a primary component of urban litter. Single-use food packaging litter kills wildlife such as birds and endangered sea turtles that become entangled or mistake it for food. The Ocean Protection Council estimates that current cost of cleaning up marine debris annually may well push the \$1 billion mark. The cost to California local governments and ratepayers for collecting and disposing of Fast Food Sector waste is as much as \$600 million annually.

Recycling opportunities for polystyrene and most other plastic take-out food packaging are limited, and no widespread recycling scheme for polystyrene has ever been successfully implemented. Without state action to address the problem of takeout food packaging litter and waste, local agencies have been left to enact a patch work of local restrictions. Almost 100 total jurisdictions have banned expanded polystyrene food takeout packaging from food vendor distribution.

California Resource Recovery Association respectfully requests your support of SB 705.

Sincerely,



Colleen Foster
Vice-President

cc: The Honorable Senator Ben Allen
Honorable Members, Senate Appropriations Committee