

**SANTA CRUZ COUNTY
INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT LOCAL TASK FORCE
Thursday, December 4, 2025, 3:00 – 5:00 pm
Capitola City Hall - Community Room
420 Capitola Road Capitola CA 95010**



Hybrid Meeting Information:

Zoom Meeting Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82339766965>

Meeting ID: 823 3976 6965

One tap mobile

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Meeting ID: 823 3976 6965

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82339766965>

Please note: Members/alternates attending remotely cannot vote or count toward a quorum unless arranged in advance with “just cause” and approved by a quorum present in the room.

Agenda

- 1) Welcome and Quorum Verification**
- 2) Oral communications – Public:** *Informational item* for members of the public to raise issues not on the agenda and within the commission’s subject matter jurisdiction. State law prevents the commission from addressing issues in detail that are not included on the meeting agenda, but it can direct staff to provide a brief answer or schedule the issue for inclusion on a future agenda.
- 3) Oral communications - Task Force members/alternates:** *Informational item* for commission members and alternates to report on issues of interest within the commission’s subject matter jurisdiction.
- 4) Review Meeting Minutes (Attachment A) –** *Motion to approve* September 4, 2025 meeting minutes.
- 5) Jurisdictional Updates –** *Informational item* for staff members to provide brief updates on issues within the commission’s subject matter jurisdiction.
- 6) Guest Presentation on Reusable Dishware –** *Informational presentation* on reusable dishware programs, including case studies, success stories, lessons learned, and steps taken to make the change from disposable to reusable dishware.
- 7) CRV Update –** *Informational item* – Staff will provide a brief overview on CRV developments since the September Task Force meeting.
- 8) SB 1053 Update (Attachment B) –** *Discussion item* – Staff will walk through amendments needed to bring the County’s bag ban ordinance into line with changes to state law. Discussion will focus on proposed and other possible changes to achieve a model ordinance for all local jurisdictions.
- 9) Embedded Battery Presentation -** *Informational item* – Staff will provide an update on the problems associated with disposal of electronic devices with embedded batteries and the changes SB 1215 (Newman, 2022) makes to the Covered Electronic Waste (CEW) Recycling Program.

10) **Legislative Update (Attachment C)** - *Staff update* to provide overview of bills introduced in the 2025/2026 legislative cycle affecting solid waste, recycling, edible food, organic waste, waste diversion, universal waste, hazardous materials management, and related topics.

11) **Call for meeting agenda items**

12) **Adjourn**



**SANTA CRUZ COUNTY
INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT LOCAL TASK FORCE
Thursday, September 4, 2025, 3:01 – 4:41 pm
Santa Cruz Civic Auditorium – Tony Hill Room
300 Church Street Santa Cruz CA 95060**



Meeting Minutes

- 1) **Welcome and Quorum Verification:** Quorum was present in the room but both chair and vice chair were absent at 3:00pm, the meeting start time. Citizen Representative, Jacob Guth volunteered to act as chair and called the meeting to order at 3:01 pm. Staff called roll and meeting attendance was noted as follows:
 - Voting Members/Alternates Present: Jacob Guth (County, citizen rep/volunteer chair), Justin Cummings (County, arrived at 3:15), Felipe Hernandez (County, chair arrived at 3:20), Bob Nelson (Santa Cruz), Scott Newsome (Santa Cruz), Will Smith (Watsonville), Tami Stolzenhaler (Watsonville, alternate).
 - Non-voting Members/Alternates Present: Leslie O'Malley (Santa Cruz, alternate - both members present), Antonio Banderas (Watsonville, alternate - not yet sworn).
 - Members/Alternates Absent: Sandy Brown (County, alternate), Ramon Gomez (County, alternate), Erika Senyk (Capitola), Allan Timms (Scotts Valley), Rodolfo Onchi (Scotts Valley, alternate), Rene Golder (Santa Cruz, alternate), Ari Parker (Watsonville, vice chair).
 - Task Force Staff Present: Beau Hawksford (County), Kasey Kolassa (County - online), Darcy Pruitt (County)
 - Agency Staff Present: Mary Ann LoBalbo (County)
 - Guests Present: Claudia Villalta-Mejia (Environmental Innovations), Laura Chain (CalRecycle – online), Kelly Murray (Grey Bears – online).
- 2) **Oral communications – Public:** (none).
- 3) **Oral communications - Task Force members/alternates:** (none)
- 4) **Approve Meeting Minutes** –B. Nelson made a motion to approve the June 5, 2025 meeting minutes, W. Smith seconded the motion. Volunteer chair Guth called for a vote by members present at the June meeting. June meeting minutes were unanimously approved.
- 5) **Jurisdictional Updates** – County staff member, Beau Hawksford made two announcements to the Task Force:
 - i) The Ben Lomond Transfer Station rehabilitation project will go back out to bid in February 2026. The project includes seismic, electrical, and facilities updates, many of them designed to provide more covered storage areas to improve stormwater quality. The project was delayed because during the prior bid solicitation, the County rejected the one bid it received based on price and responsiveness. The County hopes to be in contract and under construction by June 2026.
 - ii) The County received notice from Downtown Streets, its litter abatement contractor, that it will be closing by the end of October 2025. Currently, Downtown Streets provides litter pickup services along the north coast beaches, in the San Lorenzo Valley, and other areas of the unincorporated County. Their program also includes job training for homeless individuals. The County has been in contact with many of the partner organizations that will be affected by the change in service with the sudden loss of the County's litter abatement service provider. The County is still looking for a State Parks contact to plan next steps.

Attachment A
September 4, 2025 Task Force Meeting Minutes

- 6) **Watsonville Landfill Update Presentation** – Tami Stolzenhaller, Senior Environmental Projects Analyst provided an overview of Watsonville’s landfill development project. Watsonville’s landfill has been in operation since 1962. Five cells were permitted. Cells one & two are already closed and Cell three was in operation between 1995 and 2020. Seventy-five years of air space are left in Cells four and five. The soil from digging out Cell four was used for final cover on Cell three. Cell four was opened on April 15, 2025. The Watsonville Landfill project includes a new scale system with RFID reader and is only open for Watsonville collection trucks. All excess waste from the City of Watsonville can be taken to the Harvest Drive Drop Off Center. Landfill Operations are currently building a five-foot protective layer to protect the landfill liner for the long term. A two-foot layer of native dirt covered the liner, followed by this five-foot layer of residential only garbage. After this protective layer is established, the trash layers added above can be compacted. The City of Watsonville landfill is managed by three Landfill Operators. Ray Martin is Manager of Landfill Operations and a certified Integrated Waste Superintendent.

Cell four is constructed in the following layers from bottom to top: 1) Native subgrade, 2) Compacted Clay, 3) 40 mil HDPE geomembrane, 4) Synthetic clay layer, 5) 60 mil HDPE geomembrane, 6) 9” gravel drainage layer, 7) 8oz geotextile, 8) 24” Protective soil cover 9) Waste.

The landfill includes a leachate collection system that collects garbage contact water and includes a lysimeter. The lysimeter is a monitoring device designed to collect leachate as it percolates through landfill waste. By collecting and measuring the volume and chemical composition of the leachate, researchers can determine the status of the landfill liner and potential impacts to the environment. Liquids in the pipe on the bottom could indicate that the liner is torn. A video camera is used to inspect the lysimeter line. Garbage contact water in cell 3 drains to leachate recovery and/or leachate recovery tanks. Leachate is pumped into a tanker truck and brought to the City’s Wastewater Recycling Plant nearby on Beach Street for treatment.

Rainwater is collected and channeled to a separate drainage system to limit the amount of leachate produced in the landfill. Stormwater is transported in a series of V-ditches installed around the perimeters of cells 3 and 4 that lead to a sedimentation pond. All stormwater outlets are inspected following rain events over 1.5” in any 24 hour period. Landfills are the most highly regulated land uses in California. The Watsonville landfill is inspected by County Environmental Health, State Water Resources Control Board, CalRecycle, and Monterey Bay Air Resources District.

Watsonville offers Landfill facility tours to students and members of the public.

Adults contact: ray.martin@watsonville.gov and tami.stolzenhaller@watsonville.gov

Students in City of Watsonville contact: gina.carrillo@watsonville.gov

There was a brief question and answer after the presentation focused on the complexity of building and managing a modern landfill. The discussion included descriptions of the monthly reporting requirements, monthly inspections by state and local regulatory agencies, the continuing evolution of regulatory requirements, and the need for long term management, regulatory oversight, and environmental sampling even after the landfill closes and no longer accepts waste to ensure the landfill continues to function without impacts to groundwater and the environment. **(Presentation slides are provided at Meeting Minutes -Attachment A.)**

- 7) **California Redemption Value (CRV) Update** – County staff member, Mary Ann LoBalbo provided an update on the availability of local redemption locations since the Ben Lomond Transfer Station redemption center closed. More stores are redeeming CRV containers in store, however, coverage is spotty, and many stores limit the hours when CRV containers are accepted, especially in the San

Attachment A
September 4, 2025 Task Force Meeting Minutes

Lorenzo Valley where stores were previously covered by the Ben Lomond CRV redemption center. Two CalRecycle websites are available to direct people to local in-store CRV redemption: <https://www2.calrecycle.ca.gov/BevContainer/InStoreRedemption> and to CRV recycling centers: <https://www2.calrecycle.ca.gov/BevContainer/RecyclingCenters>. Members asked questions about how well local CRV redemption is going since Ben Lomond stopped redeeming CRV. County staff has tested two reverse vending machines and in-store CRV redemption. County staff's summary assessment is that the transition to in-store CRV is in progress, but improvements are still needed to provide adequate CRV redemption services in areas no longer served by a recycling center that accepts CRV. Watsonville residents are served by the four (4), and only, CRV redemption centers inside the County. Member Cummings requested that Task Force staff write an informational update for public release through various County channels to inform the public of CRV redemption opportunities in the community. **(Presentation slides are provided as Meeting Minutes - Attachment B.)**

- 8) **SB 54 Update** – County Staff, Darcy Pruitt provided a brief update on SB 54 summarizing the goals of the program to redesign single use packaging to be 100% recyclable or compostable by 2032, to increase actual recycling rates, and to create a circular economy in California. The presentation also included an overview of the status of public comments on CalRecycle's draft SB 54 regulations. The comment period closes on October 7, 2025. Article 11 draft regulations that affect local jurisdictions include short compliance deadlines and could require annual changes to local recycling and composting acceptance policies. Members asked questions based on information included in the presentation slides. J. Cummings made a motion to establish a staff subcommittee of volunteers from each jurisdiction to review draft regulations, prepare staff comments, and deliver those comments to each Task Force member so those comments can be submitted to CalRecycle by the member's jurisdiction after review and approval by their governing bodies. F. Hernandez seconded the motion. J. Guth called for a vote and the motion passed unanimously. **(Presentation slides are provided as Meeting Minutes -Attachment C.)**
- 9) **Countywide Waste Characterization Study** – County staff, Kasey Kolassa provided an update on the County's interest in conducting a waste characterization study and the identified rationale that will guide its methodology. The County determined that it is currently in compliance with CalRecycle regulations for edible food recovery and organic waste recycling Capacity and Procurement of organic waste products. For this reason, the County decided to follow CalRecycle's most recent waste characterization protocols but will not challenge its SB 1383 Capacity targets or its Procurement target under AB 2346. The County's waste characterization RFP requested proposals focused on the Unincorporated County but could be expanded to include waste characterization for city jurisdictions conducted at the County's Buena Vista Landfill site should the cities choose to participate. The County selected SCS Engineers' proposal in response to its RFP for waste characterization study services. SCS Engineers carried out the County's 2018 waste characterization study and its proposal was most responsive to the County's RFP. The SCS proposal included the option for a one-season study or a two-season study. The County shared SCS's proposal with the cities for their consideration. Both the City of Watsonville and the City of Capitola reviewed the proposal and decided not to participate at this time. The City of Santa Cruz expressed interest in the SCS proposal but will proceed separately, using a similar study protocol, but with samples collected and self-haul analysis to take place at the City's Dimeo Lane facility. The City of Scotts Valley did not respond to the proposal and the County plans to proceed with the waste characterization study alone. **(Presentation slides are provided as Meeting Minutes -Attachment D.)**
- 10) **Code Update SB 1053** – Staff provided an update to the Task Force about the bag ban requirements and the need for the County and other city codes to come into alignment with SB 1053's change to state law mandates on carry out bags. The new state law requires an all-out ban on plastic carryout

Attachment A
September 4, 2025 Task Force Meeting Minutes

bags distributed by most grocery, retail stores with a pharmacy, convenience stores, food marts, and liquor stores starting 1/1/2026. The law also requires 50% postconsumer recycled paper in paper carryout bags starting 1/1/2028. Existing local ordinances that conflict with the new state law must be changed before 1/1/2026. County staff plans to update County Code, send the revisions to County Counsel for approval, and share with city jurisdictions so that County Code and city municipal codes will be compatible. **Presentation slides are provided as Meeting Minutes -Attachment E.)**

11) **Legislative Update** – County staff provided a brief overview of solid waste related bills introduced in the 2025/2026 legislative cycle and their status. Staff shared that SB 501, that could create an extended producer responsibility program for household hazardous waste recovery and recycling programs; SB 561 that could create extended producer responsibility for explosive marine emergency distress flares, and AB 1153, which would expand the use of funds in the Solid Waste Disposal Site Cleanup Trust Fund for additional illegal dumping site cleanup tasks are all languishing in the legislature.

12) **Call for next meeting agenda items:** Members suggested the following items for future meetings:

- a. CRV Update
- b. Update on SB 54 Status
- c. Update on Embedded Batteries
- d. Presentation on Dine-in Reusables

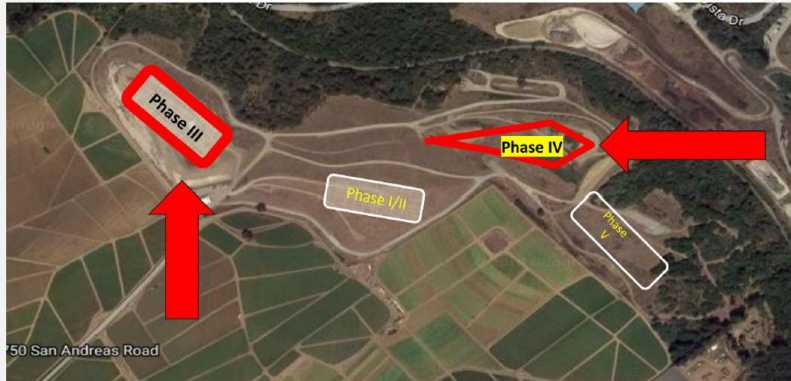
13) **Jacob Guth, Citizen Representative and volunteer chair adjourned the meeting at 4:41pm.**



Watsonville Landfill Update Question & Answer

Santa Cruz County Integrated Waste Management Local Task Force
September 4, 2025





LANDFILL HISTORY

- Since 1962
- 5 cells permitted
- Cell 3 1995-2020
- Cell 4 opened April 2025
- 75 years of air space left cells 4,5

CELL 4 NOW OPEN

- April 15, 2025 Ribbon Cutting
- 4,850 tons April 15 – August 28
- New scale system with RFID reader
- Site not open to public



LANDFILL LINER PROTECTION OPERATIONS

Building 5 foot
protective layer under
trash compaction
layers before trash is
compacted



- 3 Landfill Operators
- Integrated Waste Superintendent certified in MOLO
- Equipment: John Deere 762 Scraper; JD 700 Dozer; 624 Loader; CAT D8 Dozer; JD 710A Grader; Leachate Tanker Truck, 816 F Compactor

CELL 4 CONSTRUCTION

- Waste
- Protective Soil Cover – 24”
- 8 oz Geotextile
- 9” gravel drainage layer
- 60 mil HDPE geomembrane
- Synthetic clay liner
- 40 mil HDPE geomembrane
- Compacted clay
- Native subgrade



LEACHATE COLLECTION RECOVERY SYSTEM AND LYSIMETER

- Lysimeter system designed to indicate if leachate system is compromised
- Lysimeters on Cell 3 & 4 to detect liner tears



CELLS 1, 2, 3 CAPPED

- Opened 1995, Closed September 2020
- Leachate management ongoing
- Gas monitoring ongoing
- Stormwater management ongoing



LEACHATE RECOVERY SYSTEM

* Contact water
drains to
leachate
recovery and /or
leachate tanks



STORMWATER PROTECTION

LANDFILL REGULATIONS



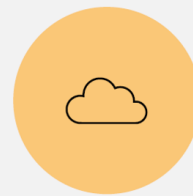
County
Environmental
Health



State Water
Resources
Control
Board



CalRecycle



Monterey
Bay Air
Resources
District



Questions?
Thank you!



California Redemption Value (CRV) Santa Cruz County Local Redemption Options

Santa Cruz County Integrated Waste Management Local Task Force
September 4, 2025

SB 1013 Statewide CRV Changes



Starting January 1, 2025 or 60 days after a local redemption center closes
State law requires covered beverage retailers to either:

- Redeem CRV beverage containers in store, or
- Join a “Dealer Cooperative” to redeem CRV beverage containers on their behalf.



September 4, 2025 Task Force Meeting Minutes
[Meeting Minutes - Attachment B]
Local CRV Redemption Options Presentation Slides

How to Find CRV Redemption Locations

In-Store Redemption Services:

<https://www2.calrecycle.ca.gov/BevContainer/InStoreRedemption>



| Export to Excel | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|---------------|
| Name ↑ | Address | City |
| 7-Eleven | 5451 Scotts Valley Dr | Scotts Valley |
| APCO Gasoline | 1725 Mission St | Santa Cruz |
| Beverages and More | 1820 41st Ave | Capitola |
| Brothers Market | 202 Buena Vista Dr | Freedom |
| Cost Plus World Market | 450 River St Bldg C | Santa Cruz |
| Costco Wholesale #149 | 220 Sylvania Ave | Santa Cruz |
| CVS Store #3952 | 783 RIO DEL MAR BLVD | APTOS |
| CVS Store #9331 | 600 Front St | Santa Cruz |
| CVS Store #9332 | 1700 Mission St | Santa Cruz |
| CVS Store #9597 | 1750 41st Ave | Capitola |



Recycling Center Redemption Services:

<https://www2.calrecycle.ca.gov/BevContainer/RecyclingCenters>



September 2025 Update Plastic Pollution Prevention and Packaging Producer Responsibility Act (SB 54)

Santa Cruz County Integrated Waste Management Local Task Force
September 4, 2025

SB 54: Standardizes Recycling Programs Statewide



In California, by 2032:



100% of single use
packaging & plastic single-
use food ware will be
recyclable or compostable.



65% of plastic single-use
packaging & food ware will
be recycled.
30% by 2028 | 40% by 2030



25% of plastic single-use
packaging & food ware will
be source reduced by
weight and unit.
10% by 2027 | 20% by 2030



25% recycling rate for expanded polystyrene food ware
= banned as of January 1, 2025

Examples of Redesigned Packaging



SB 54 Covered Single-Use Materials



| Packaging | Plastic food ware |
|--|--|
|  <p>Includes primary, secondary, and tertiary (transport) packaging Excludes materials covered by other state laws, e.g., grocery and produce bags, CRV containers</p> |  <p>Includes items used to serve or consume food Note: paper items with a plastic component (e.g., lining) are considered "plastic" for compliance purposes</p> |

September 4, 2025 Task Force Meeting Minutes
 [Meeting Minutes - Attachment C]
 SB 54 Plastic Pollution Prevention and Packaging Producer Responsibility Act Update
 Presentation Slides

SB 54 Covered Materials Category List (excerpt)



Table 1. Covered Material Category List (As of January 1, 2025)

| Category ID | Material Class ¹ | Material Type ¹ | Form ^{2,3} | Recyclable ⁴ | Compostable ⁴ |
|-------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|--|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| 24_G1N | Glass | Glass | Bottles and Jars w/o plastic component | Y | |
| 24_G1P | Glass | Glass | Bottle and Jars w/ plastic component | Y | |
| 24_G2N | Glass | Glass | Other Forms w/o plastic component | | |
| 24_G2P | Glass | Glass | Other Forms w/ plastic component | | |
| 24_G3N | Glass | Glass | Small - Two or more sides measuring 2" or less w/o plastic component | Y | |
| 24_G3P | Glass | Glass | Small - Two or more sides measuring 2" or less w/ plastic component | Y | |
| 24_C1N | Ceramic | Ceramic | All Forms w/o plastic component | | |
| 24_C1P | Ceramic | Ceramic | All Forms w/ plastic component | | |
| 24_C2N | Ceramic | Ceramic | Small - Two or more sides measuring 2" or less w/o plastic component | | |
| 24_C2P | Ceramic | Ceramic | Small - Two or more sides measuring 2" or less w/ plastic component | | |
| 24_M1N | Metal | Aluminum | Non-aerosol container w/o plastic component | Y | |
| 24_M1P | Metal | Aluminum | Non-aerosol container w/ plastic component | Y | |

- 25_PFI7P* Paper and Fiber / Multi-Material Laminate / Paperboard with a Plastic Coating/Lining
 - New category with material that was previously in 24_PFI7P Paper and Fiber / Multi-Material Laminate / Other Forms w/ plastic component

Plastic Pollution Prevention and Packaging Producer Responsibility Act
 Covered Material Categories (as updated September 2, 2025)

| Category ID | Material Class | Material Type | Form |
|-------------|----------------|---------------|--|
| 25_G1N | Glass | Glass | Bottles and Jars w/o plastic component |
| 25_G1P | Glass | Glass | Bottle and Jars w/ plastic component |
| 25_G2N | Glass | Glass | Other Forms w/o plastic component |
| 25_G2P | Glass | Glass | Other Forms w/ plastic component |
| 25_G3N | Glass | Glass | Small - Two or more sides measuring 2 inches or less w/o plastic component |
| 25_G3P | Glass | Glass | Small - Two or more sides measuring 2 inches or less w/ plastic component |
| 25_C1N | Ceramic | Ceramic | All Forms w/o plastic component |
| 25_C1P | Ceramic | Ceramic | All Forms w/ plastic component |
| 25_C2N | Ceramic | Ceramic | Small - Two or more sides measuring 2 inches or less w/o plastic component |
| 25_C2P | Ceramic | Ceramic | Small - Two or more sides measuring 2 inches or less w/ plastic component |
| 25_M1N | Metal | Aluminum | Non-aerosol Container w/o plastic component |
| 25_M1P | Metal | Aluminum | Non-aerosol Container w/ plastic component |

Covered Materials that Must be Locally Collected for Recycling or Composting



|  Recyclable |  Compostable |
|---|--|
|  <p>Rigid plastics 1, 2, & 5 Unlined paper Glass Metal</p> |  <p>Waxed and unlined paper / fiber Wood</p> |



NOTE: The statewide list is updated annually. The list above is effective as of January 2025.

SB 54 Local Acceptance Deadlines (proposed text of Article 11)



- (1) On the first date that CalRecycle approves the PRO plan, local jurisdictions and recycling service providers must collect all covered materials in the CMC list in their recycling and composting programs.
- (2) Covered material is considered included if the local jurisdiction or recycling service provider collects the covered material and transfers it to responsible end markets directly or to intermediate supply chain entities.
- (3) A change to the CMC list that imposes additional obligations does not affect the obligations of local jurisdictions or recycling service providers until one year after the change. A local jurisdiction or recycling service provider may submit a request to CalRecycle for a compliance extension or exemption.



SB 54 – Recyclability Comments (proposed text of Section 18980.3.1 (b))



CalRecycle will annually review the Covered Materials Category recyclability and shall consider recyclability comments only to the extent they address the following:

- (1) The likelihood that the covered material category will satisfy the recycling requirements before the next update to the material characterization study.
- (2) The extent to which “statewide recycling” and “alternative collection” programs have increased statewide collection and sorting.
- (3) How designation of the covered material category as recyclable on the CMC list is necessary to avoid disruption of increases in collection, sorting, and development of responsible end markets.
- (4) Assertions that the inability to lawfully label a particular covered material as “recyclable” or with the chasing arrows symbol would disrupt collection, sorting, and development of end markets necessary to satisfy SB 54 recycling requirements.

SB 54 – Current Status & Next Steps



SB 54 permanent regulations comment period – reformed regulations were published in the California Regulatory Notice Register on August 22, 2025, which started the written public comment period.

- CalRecycle will hold a hybrid public hearing on October 7, 2025, to end the comment period.

SB 54 Revised Programmatic Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) is available for review and comment until October 10, 2025.

A 45-day public comment period for California's plastic and packaging reforms began August 22, 2025, and ends October 7, 2025.

Submit Comments

Regulations Page

A 45-day comment period for the Partially Recirculated Draft Program Environmental Impact Report for the Proposed Regulations for SB 54 began August 26, 2025, and ends October 10, 2025, 5:00PM PST.

Public
Comments

Notice of
Availability

Revised
Draft PEIR

Go to <https://calrecycle.ca.gov/packaging/packaging-epr/> for more information & to submit comments

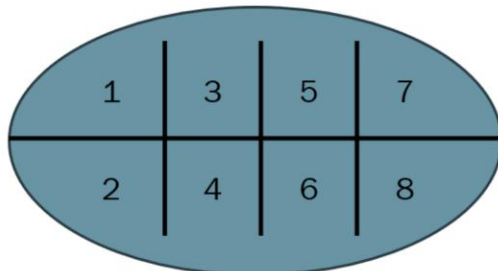
SB 54 Goal Statewide Circular Economy





Countywide Waste Characterization Selected Proposal

Santa Cruz County Integrated Waste Management Local Task Force
September 4, 2025



Plan View Showing "Cells" of Pile



Waste Characterization Selected Proposal



Santa Cruz County selected SCS Engineers proposal for
Unincorporated County Waste Characterization Study

- City of Santa Cruz has expressed interest in coordinating a study using the same methodology and the same timeframe at its Dimeo Lane waste site to ensure its facility benefits from the proposed visual waste inspections.
- City of Watsonville and City of Capitola indicated that the study proposal, though interesting, did not fit into their budget.
- City of Scotts Valley has not yet indicated its interest in participating

SCS ENGINEERS

Waste Characterization Study Tasks



Task 1: Develop Study Methodology

- Project Kick-Off Meeting
- Develop Sampling Protocols & Sorting Plan

Task 2: Physical Waste Sampling and Visual Characterization

- Select Samples to be Sorted
- Hand-sort samples into pre-determined material types
- Weigh by assigned material categories
- Record material categories on sampling form
- Visual characterization estimates loads by material types

Task 3: Sampling Results Quality Assurance & Data Analysis

- Data QA/QC & deliver data analysis spreadsheet

Task 4: Deliver Draft and Final Report to County

Waste Characterization Study Next Steps



- Communicate decision to select SCS Engineers for one week study proposal as outlined in bid proposal.
- Contact GreenWaste Recovery regarding waste characterization study decision as required under Franchise Agreement.
- Schedule meeting between County, City of Santa Cruz, GreenWaste Recovery, and SCS Engineers to develop contract approach and timeline based on bid proposal.
- Prepare and execute waste characterization study contract(s).
- Gather information required for kick-off meeting.
- Select kick-off meeting date.



SB 1053 Bag Ban Progress Report

Santa Cruz County Integrated Waste Management Local Task Force
September 4, 2025

New Carryout Bag Requirements SB 1053



State law places new restrictions on the types of bags most grocery, retail stores with a pharmacy, convenience stores, food marts, and liquor stores can distribute:

- **Beginning January 1, 2026**, stores will only be allowed to distribute recycled carryout paper bags to customers for a minimum charge of ten cents (\$0.10) per bag at:
 - Checkout counters
 - Self-checkout kiosks
 - In-store pickup
 - Curbside delivery
 - Home delivery
- **Beginning January 1, 2028**, recycled paper bags distributed at stores must contain at least 50% postconsumer recycled materials.

California Public Resources Code section 42279 et. seq.

New Carryout Bag Requirements SB 1053

Local Ordinances Across California

Every store throughout California must comply with the requirements of the law, regardless of where the store is located. If the store is in a city or county that has its own bag ordinance, however, the store may need to comply with the local requirements as well.

[A list of cities and counties that have adopted bag ordinances is available.](#) This page may not contain every local jurisdiction in California with an ordinance that restricts or prohibits the use of certain bags. We recommend checking with your local city or county authority to verify whether your city or county has its own bag ban ordinance that is in effect.



New Carryout Bag Requirements SB 1053



Santa Cruz County intends to rewrite existing carryout bag ordinance to comply with revisions to state law:

- County staff will draft ordinance
- Submit to County Counsel for review and approval
- Send to Board of Supervisors for first reading
- Send to Consent calendar for review and approval
- Implement by January 1, 2026

County Staff will share its draft ordinance with city partner agencies interested in adopting a revised ordinance.

County staff willing to collaborate on drafting a countywide ordinance if city staff would like to review and provide comments on draft ordinance.

Attachment B
SB 1053 Santa Cruz County Bag Ban Ordinance
Discussion Draft

§ 5.48.010. Findings and intent.

(A) It is the intent of the County of Santa Cruz, in enacting this chapter, to eliminate the common use of plastic single-use carryout bags, encourage the use of reusable bags by consumers and retailers, and to reduce the consumption of single-use bags in general.

(B) The County of Santa Cruz has an obligation to protect the environment, the economy, and public health. The County of Santa Cruz has a 75 percent waste reduction goal, which is to be reached by waste reduction, reuse, recycling, and composting. The County of Santa Cruz makes the following findings:

(1) In September 2011, the County of Santa Cruz passed its first bag reduction ordinance to eliminate certain types of plastic carryout bags in the unincorporated County and to encourage reusable bags to reduce waste and to protect the environment from plastic pollution.

(2) In November 2016, California voters approved Proposition 67, a statewide referendum to uphold Senate Bill 270 that banned single-use carryout bags. As a result, most grocery stores, retail stores with a pharmacy, convenience food stores, foodmarts, and liquor stores no longer provide single-use, lightweight plastic carryout bags to their customers at the point of sale.

(3) Senate Bill 270 allowed the use of thicker film plastic carryout bags that were deemed reusable if they met specified standards. These thicker film plastic carryout bags were not generally reused by consumers and resulted in an increased amount of plastic and plastic waste.

(4) In Month 2019, the County of Santa Cruz updated its bag reduction ordinance to further implement state bag reduction mandates after Senate Bill 270 took effect.

It is the intent of this ordinance to do all of the following:

(1) Support and reflect the will of Santa Cruz County residents and California voters to ban the distribution of film plastic carryout bags at stores.

(2) Incentivize California consumers to bring their own reusable bag for carrying out store purchases, with stores encouraging and supporting this practice, which will reduce the costly and wasteful practice of relying on store-provided carryout bags.

(3) Support sustainable and thriving communities and natural environments that are not burdened with pollution from plastic production nor littered with plastic waste.

(4) Eliminate film plastic carryout bags from grocery store distribution and increase the recycling of paper carryout bags.

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~~(5) Reduce the proliferation of plastic pollution by eliminating the existing provisions of law that allow film plastic carryout bags to be distributed as reusable bags under the County's and the state's bag bans.~~

¶

~~(1) Globally, an estimated 500,000,000,000 to 1,000,000,000,000 petroleum-based plastic bags are used each year, which equals over 1,000,000 per minute, the production and use of which uses over 12,000,000 barrels of oil. The California Integrated Waste Management Board estimates that Californians use nearly 20,000,000,000 single-use plastic bags per year and discard over 100 plastic bags per second. Further, the Environmental Protection Agency estimates that only five percent of the plastic bags in California and nationwide are currently recycled.~~

~~(2) The production and disposal of plastic bags causes significant environmental impacts, including contamination of the environment, the deaths of thousands of marine animals through ingestion and entanglement, widespread litter and debasement of the urban environment, and increased waste disposal costs.~~

~~(3) Most plastic carryout bags do not biodegrade, but instead persist in the environment for hundreds of years; rather than breaking down, they slowly break up through abrasion, tearing, and photo degradation into toxic plastic bits that contaminate soil and water, while entering the food web when animals inadvertently ingest these materials. Toxic substances present in plastics are known to cause death or reproductive failure in fish, shellfish, wildlife, and in the humans ingesting the fish.~~

~~(4) Plastic bits absorb dangerous compounds such as dichlorodiphenyldichloroethylene (DDE), polychlorinated biphenyls (PCB), and other toxic materials present in ocean water. Plastics have been found to concentrate these toxic chemicals at levels of up to 1,000,000 times the levels found in seawater. Plastic bits have displaced plankton in the Pacific Gyre.~~

~~(5) The U.S. Marine Mammal Commission estimates that 267 marine species have been reported entangled in or having ingested marine debris. Plastic can constrict the animals' movements or block their digestive system, killing the animals through starvation, exhaustion, or infection from deep wounds caused by tightening material.~~

~~(6) According to Save Our Shores, a Santa Cruz-based marine conservation nonprofit that conducts beach, river, and inland cleanups in the coastal regions of Santa Cruz, San Mateo, and Monterey Counties, from June 2007 to May,~~

DP

Darcelle Pruitt

...  

Difficult to find comparative data for all these data points. Consider updating County findings similar to State Legislative findings.

November 26, 2025, 10:55 AM

Reply

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~~§ 5.48.010~~

~~§ 5.48.015~~

~~¶~~

~~2011 they conducted over 400 cleanups where volunteers removed a total of 26,000 plastic bags. Unchecked, this material would have likely entered the marine environment of the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary. ¶~~

~~(7) Plastic bags returned to supermarkets may be recycled into plastic lumber; however, a very low percentage of bags are actually returned. Recycling bags into lumber does not reduce the impact of making new plastic carryout bags. ¶~~

~~(8) Compostable plastic carryout bags, as currently manufactured, do not solve the problems of wildlife damage, litter, or resource use addressed by this chapter. Compostable carryout bags are designed to remain intact until placed in a professional compost facility, so they do not degrade quickly as litter or in a marine environment. Producing compostable bags consumes nearly as much fossil fuel as noncompostable bags. Mixing compostable bags with regular plastic bags prevents recycling or composting either of them. Therefore, there is no exemption in this chapter for compostable carryout bags. ¶~~

~~(9) According to Californians Against Waste, Californians pay up to \$200.00 per household each year in State and Federal taxes to clean up litter and waste associated with single use bags, on top of the \$40.00 per household per year in hidden grocery costs to offset the expense of the nearly 1,000 "free" bags received from grocers. ¶~~

~~(10) Reusable bags are readily available from numerous sources and vendors. Many grocery and other retail establishments throughout the County of Santa Cruz already offer reusable bags for sale at a price as low as \$0.25. ¶~~

~~(11) This chapter recognizes that there are energy and environmental consequences of using paper bags. While paper bags do not have the end of use impacts of plastic bags, they may use comparable or more energy and resources to manufacture. For this reason, a store charge on paper bags is indicated, as an incentive to reduce their use and encourage reusable bags. Paper bags that contain a minimum of 40 percent post consumer recycled content have fewer negative impacts than virgin paper bags. ¶~~

~~(12) Paper shopping bags with 40 percent post consumer recycled content are easily available, and such bags are in wide use by County of Santa Cruz merchants. ¶~~

~~(13) State law currently prohibits local jurisdictions from placing fees on single use checkout plastic bags. Therefore, several California cities have adopted or are pursuing a ban as the most effective remaining means to eliminate the impacts these plastic bags cause. State law does not prohibit jurisdictions from placing a store charge on paper bags. ¶~~

~~(Ord. 5103 § 1, 2011; Ord. 5291 § 17, 2019) ¶~~

~~§ 5.48.015. Definitions. ¶~~

~~For the purposes of this chapter, the following definitions apply: ¶~~..... Section Break (Next Page).....

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¶

(A) → "Carryout bags" means bags provided by retailers to customers at the point of sale to hold customers' purchases. "Carryout bags" does not include bags used to contain loose items prior to checkout, such as meat, produce, and bulk goods, and does not include prepackaged products.¶

~~(B) → "Film plastic or "Plastic film" means thin continuous polymeric material that can be made from a variety of plastic resins. Common resins used include polyethylene (PE), polypropylene (PP), polyethylene terephthalate (PET), and polyvinyl chloride (PVC). Generally, film plastic is made from thicknesses of .00025" (.06mm) up to .010" (.25mm).¶~~

~~(B)(C) → "Single-use plastic bag" or "single-use plastic carryout bag" means a single-use carryout bag of any size that is made from film plastic and provided at the point of sale to customers by a retail establishment that is not a recycled paper bag or a reusable bag. Single-use plastic bags include both compostable and noncompostable carryout bags.¶~~

~~(C)(D) → "Recycled single-use paper bag" or "single-use paper carryout bag" means a paper carryout bag provided by a retail establishment at the point of sale that is made from paper and is not a reusable bag that until January 1, 2028 must contain at least 40% postconsumer recycled paper. On and after January 1, 2028, a recycled paper bag must contain at least 50% postconsumer recycled paper.¶~~

~~(D)(E) → "Recyclable" means material that can be sorted, cleansed, and reconstituted using the County's available recycling collection programs for the purpose of using the altered form in the manufacture of a new product. Recycling does not include burning, incinerating, converting, or otherwise destroying solid waste.¶~~

~~(E)(F) → "Reusable bag" means any bag with handles that is specifically designed and manufactured for at least 125 uses with a volume of at least 15 liters multiple reuse, and is either (a) made of cloth or other washable woven fabric, or (b) made of durable material that is at least four mils thick can be disinfected. A "reusable bag" may be made of recyclable plastic such as high density polyethylene (HDPE), low density polyethylene (LDPE), or polypropylene, but cannot be made from film plastic.¶~~

~~(F)(G) → "Retail establishment" or "retail store" means all sales outlets, stores, shops, restaurants, vehicles, or other places of business located within the unincorporated area of the County of Santa Cruz, which operate primarily to sell or convey goods, including "to go" food, directly to the ultimate consumer.¶~~

~~(G)(H) → "Exempted uses" means those point-of-purchase or delivery sales which have received an exemption under SCCC § 5.48.030 that allows the use of single-use bags.¶~~

~~(H)(I) → "Prepared food" means foods or beverages which are prepared on vendor's premises by cooking, chopping, slicing, mixing, freezing, or squeezing, and which require no further preparation to be consumed. "Prepared food" does not include any raw, uncooked meat product or fruits and vegetables which are not chopped, squeezed, or mixed.¶~~

~~(I)(J) → "Take out food" means prepared food or beverages requiring no further~~

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preparation to be consumed, and which are generally purchased in order to be consumed off restaurant or retail food vendor's premises.

(K) → "Director" or "Director of ~~Public Works~~ Community Development and Infrastructure" refers to the Director of the Santa Cruz County Department of Community Development and Infrastructure or their designee.

(Ord. 5103 § 1, 2011; Ord. 5116 § 1, 2012; Ord. 5138 § 1, 2012; Ord. 5186 § 1, 2014; Ord. 5291 § 17, 2019)

¶

§ 5.48.020. Ban on single-use plastic carryout bags—Store charge for single-use

paper carryout bags ~~and plastic reusable bags.~~

(A) → Retail establishments are prohibited from providing single-use plastic carryout bags to customers at the point of sale, except as permitted in this chapter.

(B) → Retail establishments shall charge a minimum \$0.25 fee for each single-use paper carryout bag provided to customers at the point of sale.

(C) → The charge imposed pursuant to this section shall not be applied to customers participating in the California Special Supplemental Food Program for Women, Infants, and Children, the State Department of Social Services Food Stamp program, or other government-subsidized purchase programs for low-income residents.

(D) → Notwithstanding the charging requirements set forth in subsection (B) of this section, ~~recycled~~ single-use paper carryout bags may be distributed without charge by restaurants for the transportation of food or beverages that are provided to customers for consumption on the premises, for take-out, or by delivery.

(E) → The ban on single-use plastic bags and the charge on ~~recycled~~ single-use paper bags would not apply to compostable plastic or paper bags used to protect produce, meat, or otherwise used to protect items as they are put into a carryout bag at checkout. Other examples include paper bags to protect bottles, compostable plastic bags around ice cream or other wet items, paper bags used to weigh candy, paper pharmacy bags or paper bags to protect greeting cards.

(F) → Retail establishments are strongly encouraged to make reusable bags available for sale to customers at a reasonable price. Reusable bags which meet the requirements of this chapter may be distributed without charge during limited-duration promotional events.

(G) → Retail establishments shall indicate on the customer transaction receipt the number of recycled paper carryout bags provided, and the total amount charged for those bags.

(H) → County of Santa Cruz contractors and special events promoters, and their vendors, shall not provide single-use plastic carryout bags to participants while performing under a County of Santa Cruz contract or permit.

(Ord. 5103 § 1, 2011; Ord. 5116 § 2, 2012; Ord. 5138 § 2, 2012; Ord. 5291 § 17, 2019; Ord. 5298 § 14, 2019)

§ 5.48.022. Recyclability requirements for single-use paper carryout bags.

~~Until January 1, 2028, recycled~~~~Single-use~~ paper carryout bags provided to customers shall contain a minimum of 40 percent post-consumer recycled paper fiber. ~~On and after January 1, 2028, recycled paper carryout bags must contain 50 percent post-consumer recycled paper fiber. All recycled paper carryout bag must-and~~ be recyclable in the County of Santa Cruz's curbside recycling program.

(Ord. 5291 § 16, 2019)

§ 5.48.025. Implementation.

(A)→Sixty days before the ordinance codified in this chapter takes effect, the County of

Santa Cruz shall post, mail or deliver a copy of it to retail establishments within the unincorporated area of the County of Santa Cruz.

(B)→The County of Santa Cruz will distribute to each store a reproducible placard designed to inform shoppers of the County of Santa Cruz regulations concerning carryout bags.

(Ord. 5103 § 1, 2011; Ord. 5291 § 17, 2019)

§ 5.48.030. Exemptions allowing single-use bags.

(A)→The Director of ~~Public Works~~~~Community Development and Infrastructure~~ may exempt a retail establishment from the requirement set forth in SCCC § 5.48.020 for a one-year period upon the retail establishment showing, in writing, that this chapter would create an undue hardship or practical difficulty not generally applicable to other persons in similar circumstances. The decision to grant or deny an exemption shall be in writing, and the Director's decision shall be final.

(B)→An exemption application shall include all information necessary for the Director to make a decision, including but not limited to documentation showing factual support for the claimed exemption.

(C)→The Director may approve the exemption application in whole or in part, with or without conditions.

(Ord. 5103 § 1, 2011; Ord. 5291 § 17, 2019)

§ 5.48.035. Enforcement.

Enforcement of this chapter shall be as follows:

- (A)→The Director of ~~Community Development and Infrastructure Public Works~~ shall have primary responsibility for enforcement of this chapter and shall have authority to issue citations for violation of this chapter. The Director is authorized to establish regulations or administrative procedures to ensure compliance with this chapter.
 - (B)→A person or entity violating or failing to comply with any of the requirements of this chapter shall be guilty of an infraction.
 - (C)→The County of Santa Cruz may seek legal, injunctive, or any other relief to enforce the provisions of this chapter and any regulation or administrative procedure authorized by it.
 - (D)→The remedies and penalties provided in this chapter are cumulative and not exclusive of one another.
 - (E)→The Director of ~~Community Development and Infrastructure Public Works~~ may inspect any retail establishment's premises to verify compliance with this chapter.
- (Ord. 5103 § 1, 2011; Ord. 5291 § 17, 2019).....Section Break (Next Page).....

§ 5.48.040. Violations.

Violations of this chapter shall be enforced as follows:

- (A)→Violation of this chapter is hereby declared to be a public nuisance. Any violation described in this chapter shall be subject to abatement by the County of Santa Cruz, as well as any other remedies that may be permitted by law for public nuisances, and may be enforced by injunction, upon a showing of violation.
- (B)→Upon a first violation by a retail establishment, the Director of ~~Community Development and Infrastructure Public Works~~ shall mail the establishment a written warning. The warning shall recite the violation and advise that future violations may result in fines.
- (C)→Upon a second or subsequent violation by a retail establishment, the following penalties will apply:
 - (1)→A fine not exceeding \$100.00 for the first violation that occurs 30 days or more after the first warning.
 - (2)→A fine not exceeding \$200.00 for the second violation that occurs 60 days or more after the first warning.

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- (3) → A fine not exceeding \$500.00 for the third violation that occurs 90 days or more after the first warning.¶
- (4) → A fine not exceeding \$500.00 for every 30-day period not in compliance, that occurs 90 days or more after the first warning.¶
- (D) → Special event promoters and their vendors who violate this chapter in connection with commercial or non-commercial special events shall be assessed fines as follows:¶
- (1) → A fine not exceeding \$200.00 for an event of one to 200 persons.¶
- (2) → A fine not exceeding \$400.00 for an event of 201 to 400 persons.¶
- (3) → A fine not exceeding \$600.00 for an event of 401 to 600 persons.¶
- (4) → A fine not exceeding \$1,000 for an event of 601 or more persons.¶
- (E) → Remedies and fines under this section are cumulative.
(Ord. 5103-§ 1, 2011; Ord. 5291-§ 17, 2019)¶

§ 5.48.045. Severability.¶

If any word, phrase, sentence, part, section, subsection, or other portion of this chapter, or any application thereof to any person or circumstance is declared void, unconstitutional, or invalid for any reason, then such word, phrase, sentence, part, section, subsection, or other portion, or the proscribed application thereof, shall be severable, and the remaining provisions of this chapter, and all applications thereof, not having been declared void, unconstitutional or invalid, shall remain in full force and effect. The County of Santa Cruz hereby declares that it would have passed this title, and¶

each section, subsection, sentence, clause, and phrase thereof, irrespective of the fact that any one or more sections, subsections, sentences, clauses, or phrases had been declared invalid or unconstitutional.¶

(Ord. 5103-§ 1, 2011)¶

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§ 5.48.050. Effective date.

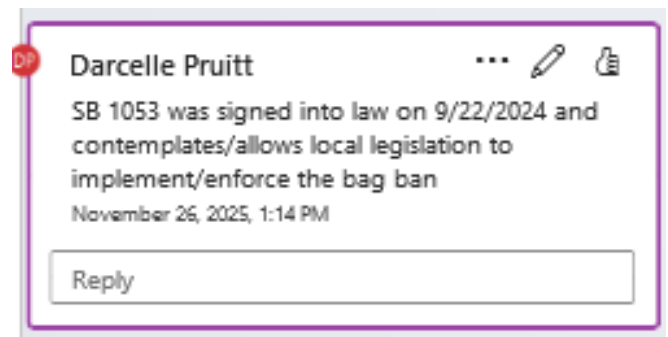
The ordinance codified in this chapter shall become effective six months after the date of final passage by the County of Santa Cruz Board of Supervisors.
(Ord. 5103 § 1, 2011)

§ 5.48.055. No conflict with Federal or State law.

Nothing in this chapter shall be interpreted or applied so as to create any requirement, power, or duty in conflict with any Federal or State law.
(Ord. 5103 § 1, 2011)

§ 5.48.060. Preemption.

The provisions of this chapter shall be null and void if State or Federal legislation, or administrative regulation, takes effect with the same or substantially similar provisions as contained in this chapter. The Board of Supervisors shall determine whether or not identical or substantially similar legislation has been enacted or regulations issued.
(Ord. 5103 § 1, 2011; Ord.)



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Bills relating to waste management, recycling, and hazardous materials

Battery Management

AB 696, as amended, Ransom. Lithium-ion vehicle batteries: emergencies: advisory group. Existing law requires the Secretary for Environmental Protection, until January 1, 2027, to convene the Lithium-Ion Car Battery Recycling Advisory Group to review, and advise the Legislature on, policies pertaining to the recovery and recycling of lithium-ion batteries sold with motor vehicles in the state, and requires the secretary to appoint members to the committee from specified departments, vocations, and organizations. Existing law, the California Emergency Services Act, establishes the Office of Emergency Services within the Governor’s office, under the supervision of the Director of Emergency Services, and makes the office responsible for the state’s emergency and disaster response services for natural, technological, or manmade disasters and emergencies. This bill would require the [Office of the State Fire Marshal](#), on or before December 31, 2026, to convene the Lithium-Ion Car Battery Advisory Group to review, and advise the Legislature on, policies pertaining to the handling and disposal of lithium-ion vehicle batteries in an emergency capacity. The bill would require the [Office of the State Fire Marshal](#) to appoint members to the advisory group from specified departments, vocations, and organizations. The bill would require the advisory group to meet at least quarterly until July 1, 2028, and to consult with universities and research institutions that have conducted research in the area of battery recycling, with manufacturers of electric and hybrid vehicles, and with the recycling industry. The bill would require the group to develop standards, on or before July 1, 2028, based on local, state, and national guidance and research, aimed at ensuring that best standards and practices are created that allow first responders to respond to lithium-ion vehicle battery emergencies in a safe and efficient manner. The bill would repeal these provisions on January 1, 2029. [Last amended 8/20/2025 in the State Assembly, Status: ordered to a third reading in the State Senate 8/26/2025. Vetoed by Governor 10/11/2025, Consideration of Governor's veto pending](#)

AB 762, as amended, Irwin. Disposable, battery-embedded vapor inhalation device: prohibition. (1) Existing law regulates the manufacture, sale, and disposal of various single-use products, including single-use foodware accessories and condiments and single-use carryout bags. Existing law prohibits a store from, among other things, providing, distributing, or selling a carryout bag at the point of sale, except as specified. Existing law defines terms for these purposes. This bill would prohibit, beginning January 1, 2026, a person from selling, distributing, or offering for sale a new or refurbished disposable, battery-embedded vapor inhalation device in this state. The bill would define a “disposable, battery-embedded vapor inhalation device” to mean a vaporization device that is not designed or intended to be reused, as specified. Existing law authorizes a city, county, city and county, or the state, to impose civil liability on a person or entity that knowingly violated, or reasonably should have known that it violated, provisions relating to the above-described carryout bag prohibition in specified fine amounts, including \$1,000 per day for the first violation. Existing law requires any civil penalties collected to be paid to whichever office brought the action, as specified, and authorizes the Attorney General to expend any penalties it collects, upon appropriation by the Legislature, to enforce those provisions. This bill would authorize a city, a county, a city and county, or the state, to enforce the above-described disposable, battery-embedded vapor inhalation device prohibition and to impose civil liability on a person or entity in violation of the prohibition in specified fine amounts, including \$500 for the first violation. The bill would require any civil penalties collected to be paid to whichever office brought the action, as specified, and would authorize the Attorney General to expended any penalties it collects, upon appropriation by the Legislature, to enforce these provisions. The bill would specify that any

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remedies provided pursuant to these provisions are not exclusive and are in addition to the remedies that may be available pursuant to specified provisions relating to unfair competition. The bill would make any person who violates the above-described disposable battery-embedded vapor inhalation device prohibition guilty of an infraction punishable by a fine of not more than \$500. By expanding the scope of an infraction, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

(2) Existing law, the Cigarette and Tobacco Products Licensing Act of 2003, provides for the licensure and regulation of manufacturers, importers, distributors, wholesalers, and retailers of cigarettes and tobacco products by the State Board of Equalization. Existing law requires every person desiring to engage in the sale of cigarettes or tobacco products as, among other things, a wholesaler to file with the board an application for a license, as specified. Existing law authorizes the California Department of Tax and Fee Administration to suspend or revoke a license described above, as specified, of any importer or any manufacturer that has failed to comply with specified provisions relating to monthly reporting of distributors and wholesale costs. This bill would authorize the department to revoke or suspend any license to engage in the sale of cigarettes or tobacco products, as defined, of any person with a license who is in violation of the above-described prohibition for a disposable, battery-embedded vapor inhalation device containing a tobacco product.

(3) The Control, Regulate and Tax Adult Use of Marijuana Act (AUMA), an initiative measure approved as Proposition 64 at the November 8, 2016, statewide general election, authorizes a person who obtains a state license under AUMA to engage in commercial adult-use cannabis activity pursuant to that license and applicable local ordinances. Existing law, the Medicinal and Adult-Use Cannabis Regulation and Safety Act (MAUCRSA), among other things, consolidates the licensure and regulation of commercial medicinal and adult-use cannabis activities, including retail commercial cannabis activity. MAUCRSA establishes the Department of Cannabis Control within the Business, Consumer Services, and Housing Agency to administer the act. MAUCRSA authorizes the department to issue state licenses only to qualified applicants, and authorizes the department to revoke or suspend a license if, among other things, a licensee fails to actively and diligently pursue requirements for a license. This bill would authorize the department to revoke or suspend a license issued by the department of any person with a license who is in violation of the above-described prohibition for a disposable, battery-embedded vapor inhalation device containing a cannabis product, as defined. The bill would specify that any penalty described above is in addition to the other penalties authorized by the bill. The bill would require costs incurred by a state agency in carrying out these provisions to be recoverable by the Attorney General, upon the request of the agency, from the liable person or persons.

(4) The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement. This bill would provide that no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason. [Last amended 3/28/2025 in State Assembly, Status: Hearing canceled at author's request.](#)
[Active bill- in committee process, Hearing canceled at request of author 4/29/2025](#)

SB 615, as amended, Allen. Vehicle traction batteries. Existing law requires the Secretary for Environmental Protection to convene the Lithium-Ion Car Battery Recycling Advisory Group to review, and advise the Legislature on, policies pertaining to the recovery and recycling of lithium-ion vehicle batteries sold with motor vehicles in the state. Existing law also requires the advisory group to submit policy recommendations to the Legislature aimed at ensuring that as close to 100% as possible of lithium-ion vehicle batteries in the state are reused or recycled at end of life in

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a safe and cost-effective manner. The hazardous waste control laws require the Department of Toxic Substances Control to regulate the handling and management of hazardous waste. A violation of the hazardous waste control laws is a crime. This bill would require a battery supplier, as defined, to be responsible for, among other duties, ensuring the responsible end-of-life management of a vehicle traction battery if it is removed from a vehicle that is still in service, as provided, or if the vehicle traction battery is offered or returned to its battery supplier, and reporting information regarding the sale, transfer, or receipt of a vehicle traction battery or battery module to the department, as provided. The bill would impose related duties on a secondary user, as defined, and a secondary handler, as defined, including, among other duties, ensuring the responsible end-of-life management for a vehicle traction battery or returning a vehicle traction battery to the battery supplier, and reporting information regarding the sale, transfer, or receipt of a vehicle traction battery or battery module to the department, as provided. The bill would also require an auctioneer, as defined, and salvage disposal auction, as defined, to report similar information regarding a vehicle traction battery to the department. This bill would require the battery supplier to pay the department's actual and reasonable regulatory costs to implement and enforce these provisions. The bill would establish the Vehicle Traction Battery Recovery Fund (fund) in the State Treasury and would require the department to deposit all moneys received from the battery supplier into the fund, as specified. Moneys in the fund would be available, upon appropriation by the Legislature, to implement and enforce these provisions. The bill would authorize, upon appropriation by the Legislature, the Director of Finance to make a loan from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund to the fund to meet regulatory and startup costs of the department's activities pursuant to these provisions. The bill would require, upon appropriation by the Legislature, moneys in the fund to be expended to reimburse loans made from other funds for those purposes. The bill would require the department to conduct a study to determine whether there is evidence of abandonment of orphaned batteries leading to environmental and health and safety hazards and, on or before January 1, 2030, and every 5 years thereafter, to post the results of its findings on its internet website. The bill would authorize the department to impose civil or administrative penalties for a violation of these requirements. The bill would exempt a violation of these requirements from the criminal penalties imposed pursuant to the hazardous waste control laws, but would require that all reports and records provided to the department pursuant to these provisions be provided under penalty of perjury. By expanding the scope of crimes, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program. The bill would restrict public access to certain information collected for the purpose of administering this program. Existing constitutional provisions require that a statute that limits the right of access to the meetings of public bodies or the writings of public officials and agencies be adopted with findings demonstrating the interest protected by the limitation and the need for protecting that interest. This bill would make legislative findings to that effect. The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement. This bill would provide that no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason. [Last amended 7/07/2025, in Assembly Appropriations](#), [Status: Committee hearing date 8/29/2025](#). [Ordered to inactive file on request of Assembly Member Aguiar-Curry 9/9/2025](#).

Biofuels

SB 377, as amended, Grayson. Biomethane procurement targets. Existing law vests the Public Utilities Commission with regulatory authority over public utilities, including gas corporations.

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Existing law requires the commission, in consultation with the State Air Resources Board, to consider adopting specific biomethane procurement targets or goals for each gas corporation and core transport agent, as specified. Existing law requires, if the commission adopts specific biomethane procurement targets or goals for each gas corporation and core transport agent, the commission to, among other things, ensure that the biomethane available for any procurement program is either delivered to California through a dedicated pipeline, or through a common carrier pipeline and meets 2 specified requirements related to the injection of the biomethane and specified environmental benefits, as prescribed. This bill would instead require that biomethane delivered to California through a common carrier pipeline meet either of the specified requirements, rather than both. The bill would also add the displacement of conventional natural gas that results in a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions as one of the specified environmental benefits, as specified. Existing law requires the commission to consider options to promote the in-state production and distribution of biomethane, including whether to allow recovery in rates of the costs of investments to (1) facilitate direct investment in the procurement and installation of utility infrastructure necessary to achieve interconnection between the natural gas transmission and distribution pipeline network and biomethane generation and collection equipment and of gathering lines for a dairy cluster biomethane project, (2) provide for the installation of utility infrastructure to achieve interconnection with facilities that generate biomethane, and (3) ensure that these investments for infrastructure are prudent and reasonable and provide a direct benefit to, and are in the interests of, all classes of ratepayers. This bill would require, on or before June 1, 2026, the commission to allow recovery in rates of the costs of those investments. Under existing law, a violation of the Public Utilities Act or an order, decision, rule, direction, demand, or requirement of the commission is a crime. Because the provisions of this bill would be part of the act and because a violation of a commission action implementing its requirements would be a crime, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program. The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement. This bill would provide that no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason. [Last amended 3/17/2025, in Senate Energy, Utilities and Communications, Status: Hearing canceled at author's request. Active bill- in committee process, Hearing canceled at request of author 4/7/2025](#)

Carbon Capture

SB 285, as amended, Becker. Net zero greenhouse gas emissions goal: carbon dioxide removal: regulations. The California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 establishes the State Air Resources Board as the state agency responsible for monitoring and regulating sources emitting greenhouse gases. The act requires the state board to approve a statewide greenhouse gas emissions limit equivalent to the statewide greenhouse gas emissions level in 1990 to be achieved by 2020 and to ensure that statewide greenhouse gas emissions are reduced to at least 40% below the 1990 level by 2030. The act requires the state board to prepare and approve a scoping plan for achieving the maximum technologically feasible and cost-effective reductions in greenhouse gas emissions and to update the scoping plan at least once every 5 years. Existing law requires the state board, as part of its scoping plan, to establish specified carbon dioxide removal targets for 2030 and beyond. Existing law, the California Climate Crisis Act, declares the policy of the state both to achieve net zero greenhouse gas emissions as soon as possible, but no later than 2045, and achieve and maintain net negative greenhouse gas emissions thereafter, and to ensure that by 2045, statewide anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions are reduced to at least 85% below the

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1990 levels. This bill would, for the purpose of meeting, or tracking progress against, any state requirement to achieve net zero emissions of greenhouse gases, authorize only qualified carbon dioxide removal, as defined, to be used to counterbalance the state's or an entity's greenhouse gas emissions and would require qualified carbon dioxide removal used for those purposes to meet certain requirements, as specified. Existing law requires the state board to establish a Carbon Capture, Removal, Utilization, and Storage Program to, among other things, evaluate the efficacy, safety, and viability of carbon capture, utilization, or storage technologies and carbon dioxide removal technologies and facilitate the capture and sequestration of carbon dioxide from those technologies, where appropriate. In furtherance of the objectives of that program, existing law authorizes the state board, by January 1, 2024, to adopt protocols to support additional methods of utilization or storage of captured carbon dioxide. This bill would indefinitely authorize the state board to adopt those protocols, and protocols to support methods of utilization or storage of removed carbon dioxide. [Last amended 3/25/2025, Held in Senate Appropriations Committee under submission, Status: Placed on Appropriations suspense file.](#)

Composting and Organic Waste Recycling

AB 411, as amended, Papan. Livestock carcasses: disposal: composting. Existing law prohibits a dead animal hauler or any other person from transporting a dead animal to any place, other than to certain specified facilities or destinations, unless a certain waiver is granted by the State Veterinarian, as specified. Existing law requires the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery to adopt and revise minimum standards for solid waste handling, transfer, composting, transformation, and disposal, as prescribed. Pursuant to this authority, the department has adopted a regulation that prohibits the composting of unprocessed mammalian tissue except when received from certain sources. This bill would, notwithstanding those prohibitions, authorize any part of a livestock carcass resulting from a routine livestock mortality event or on-farm processing to be composted if certain requirements are met, including, among others, that the composting is conducted in accordance with best management practices for livestock composting adopted by the Secretary of Food and Agriculture, as specified. [Last amended 7/17/2025, in Senate Appropriations, Status: in Senate Appropriations Committee referred to suspense file, Status: Senate Appropriations committee hearing date 8/29/2025. Approved by the Governor and chaptered by Secretary of State 10/11/2025](#)

AB 436, as amended, Ransom. Composting facilities: zoning. Existing law provides that the Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation serves the Governor and the Governor's Cabinet as staff for long-range planning and research, and constitute the comprehensive state planning agency. In that capacity, existing law requires the office to, among other things, assist local governments in land use planning. Existing law, the California Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989, establishes the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery to administer an integrated waste management program. Existing law establishes a goal that statewide landfill disposal of organic waste be reduced from the 2014 level by 75% by 2025. This bill, on or before June 1, 2027, would require the Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation, in consultation with the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery, to develop and post on the office's internet website, a technical advisory, as provided, reflecting best practices to facilitate the siting of composting facilities to meet the organic waste reduction goals. The bill would require the office to consult with specified entities throughout the development of the technical advisory. The Planning and Zoning Law requires each county and city to adopt a comprehensive, long-term general plan for its

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physical development, and the development of certain lands outside its boundaries, that includes, among other mandatory elements, a land use element that designates the proposed general distribution and general location and extent of the uses of the land for housing, business, solid and liquid waste disposal facilities, and other categories of public and private uses of land, as prescribed. This bill, upon a substantive revision of the land use element, as specified, on or after January 1, 2029, would require a city, county, or city and county to consider, among other things, the best practices, sample general plan, and model ordinance reflected in the technical advisory and to consider updating the land use element to identify areas where composting facilities may be appropriate as an allowable use. By increasing duties on a city, county, or city and county, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program. [Last amended 3/10/2025, in Assembly Local Government, Status: in Committee held under submission.](#)

SB 279, as amended, McNerney. Solid waste: compostable materials. Existing law requires the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery to adopt and revise regulations setting forth minimum standards for composting, in accordance with law. Existing regulations require all compostable materials handling activities to obtain a permit prior to commencing operations and to comply with specified requirements. Existing regulations specify 4 regulatory tiers for composting operations, with different requirements for each tier. The 4 tiers are excluded, enforcement agency notification, registration permit, and full solid waste facility permit. In the excluded tier, existing regulations specify the “excluded activities” that do not constitute compostable material handling operations or facilities and, therefore, are not subject to permit requirements or other regulatory requirements. One of the excluded activities is the composting of green material, agricultural material, food material, and vegetative food material, alone or in combination, if the total amount of feedstock and compost onsite at any one time does not exceed 100 cubic yards and 750 square feet. This bill would require that the total amount of feedstock and compost onsite at any one time not exceed 500 cubic yards instead of the 100 cubic yards and 750 square feet in the regulations. The bill would also require the composting of agricultural materials and residues that are from a large-scale biomass management event at an agricultural facility that does not otherwise operate as a solid waste facility to be an excluded activity, as specified. Existing regulations prohibit a composting operation from giving away or selling more than 1,000 cubic yards of compost product annually if it is in the excluded tier or if it is an agricultural material composting operation in the enforcement agency notification tier, its feedstock is both green material and agricultural material, and the operation is located on land zoned for agricultural uses. This bill would authorize those composting operations to give away or sell up to 5,000 cubic yards of compost product annually. [The bill would authorize the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery to increase, by regulation, that amount when the composting is of agricultural materials and residues that are from a large-scale biomass management event at an agricultural facility. Last amended 6/30/2025 Assembly Natural Resources Committee, Status: Placed on Assembly Appropriations suspense file. Approved by the Governor and chaptered by Secretary of State 10/11/2025](#)

SB 725, as introduced, Dahle. Recycling: organic byproducts. Existing law requires the California Environmental Protection Agency, in coordination with the department, the State Water Resources Control Board, the State Air Resources Board, the Department of Food and Agriculture, and the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, to develop and implement policies to aid in diverting organic waste from landfills by promoting the use of agricultural, forestry, and urban organic waste as a feedstock for compost and by promoting the appropriate use of that compost throughout the

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Edible Food

AB 337, as introduced, Bennett. Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund: grant program: edible food. The California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 designates the State Air Resources Board as the state agency charged with monitoring and regulating sources of emissions of greenhouse gases. The act authorizes the state board to include the use of market-based compliance mechanisms. Existing law requires all moneys, except for fines and penalties, collected by the state board as a part of the market-based compliance mechanism to be deposited in the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund. Existing law requires the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery, upon appropriation, to administer a grant program to provide financial assistance to promote the in-state development of infrastructure, food waste prevention, or other projects to reduce organic waste, sort and aggregate or process organic and other recyclable materials into new, value-added products, or divert items from disposal through enhanced reuse opportunities. Existing law requires the grant program to provide eligible financial assistance for certain activities, including activities that expand and improve organic waste diversion and recycling, including, but not limited to, the recovery of food for human consumption and food waste prevention. Existing law specifies eligible infrastructure projects for purposes of the program, including, but not limited to, the construction of facilities to help develop, implement, or expand edible food waste recovery operations. This bill would expand the grant program to provide financial assistance for the recovery of edible food, as specified. The bill would specify that eligible infrastructure projects includes the construction or expansion of facilities to help develop, implement, or expand edible food waste recovery operations. The bill would require the department to consider the increased amount of edible food recovery capacity that the project will create when awarding a grant for edible food recovery. [Status: In Assembly Natural Resources Committee: Held under submission](#).

AB 643, as amended, Wilson. Climate change: short-lived climate pollutants: organic waste reduction. Existing law establishes methane emissions reduction goals that include a target to reduce landfill disposal of organics by 75% of the 2014 level of the statewide disposal of organic waste by 2025. Existing law requires the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery, in consultation with the State Air Resources Board, to adopt regulations to achieve the organic waste reduction goals. Existing law authorizes a local jurisdiction to count compost produced and procured from specified compost operations towards its recovered organic waste procurement target. This bill would authorize a local jurisdiction to include organic material used as a beneficial agricultural amendment towards its recovered organic waste procurement target if the material is processed at a facility authorized by the department using specified approved technologies, and if the material is licensed for end use as an agricultural fertilizer by the Department of Food and Agriculture. [Last amended: 3/24/2025, Status: Hearing postponed by Assembly Natural Resources Committee](#).

AB 1046, as amended, Bains. Short-lived climate pollutants: recovered organic waste product: agricultural crop preparation service. Existing law requires the State Air Resources Board to implement a comprehensive short-lived climate pollutant strategy to achieve a reduction in

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Hazardous Waste Management

AB 864, as amended, Ward. Hazardous waste: solar photovoltaic modules.

Existing law requires the Department of Toxic Substances Control to adopt regulations for the identification and management of hazardous wastes. Existing law authorizes the department to adopt regulations designating end-of-life photovoltaic modules that are identified as hazardous waste as a universal waste and subject to regulations applicable to universal waste management. Existing regulations define surplus materials, as provided, and specify that surplus material is not a recyclable material. [Existing federal regulations exclude from being classified as hazardous waste under federal law certain hazardous secondary material that is generated and then transferred to another person for the purpose of reclamation if specific conditions are met.](#) This bill would make the universal waste designation applicable to a solar photovoltaic module that is intended for recycling and cannot otherwise be resold, reused, or refurbished only until the department adopts regulations implementing alternative management standards for solar photovoltaic modules. [The bill would require the department to institute a rulemaking to develop alternative management standards for solar photovoltaic modules that facilitate greater material recovery. The bill would require the department to adopt the above-referenced federal transfer-based exclusion regulation for solar photovoltaic modules.](#) The bill would also designate a solar photovoltaic module that can be resold, reused, or refurbished as surplus material. The bill would make a conforming change. [Last amended: 7/17/2025, Status: Referred to Senate Appropriations suspense file, Committee hearing date 8/29/2025. Ordered to inactive file at the request of Senator McNerney 9/10/2025.](#)

AB 872, as amended, Blanca Rubio. Environmental health: product safety: perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances.

(1) Existing law, known as the Green Chemistry program, requires the Department of Toxic Substances Control to adopt regulations to establish a process to identify and prioritize chemicals or chemical ingredients in consumer products that may be considered as being chemicals of concern. Existing law requires the regulations to include criteria by which chemicals and their alternatives may be evaluated by the department, as provided. Existing law requires the department, following the completion of an alternatives analysis, to provide a regulatory response

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that may include, but is not limited to, not requiring any action and restricting or prohibiting the use of the chemical of concern in the consumer product. This bill would, beginning January 1, 2028, prohibit a person from distributing, selling, or offering for sale a covered product, as defined, that contains intentionally added PFAS, as defined, unless the department has issued a regulatory response for the covered product pursuant to the Green Chemistry program or the prohibition is preempted by federal law. The bill would authorize a manufacturer of a covered product to petition the department to evaluate a covered product and would require the department to evaluate and provide a regulatory response for a covered product under the Green Chemistry program, as specified. This bill would require the department, on or before January 1, 2028, to adopt regulations to carry out these provisions. The bill would require the department to analyze and comment on the presence of PFAS in industrial processes and products, as specified. The bill would authorize the department to identify and categorize commercially active PFAS present in products distributed in California, as specified. The bill would authorize the department to report on other issues relating to products containing PFAS and emissive compounds.

(2) Existing law requires the department, on or before January 1, 2029, to adopt regulations to enforce specified covered perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) restrictions, which include prohibitions on the distribution, sale, or offering for sale of certain products that contain specified levels of PFAS. Existing law requires the department, on and after July 1, 2030, to enforce and ensure compliance with those provisions and regulations, as provided. Existing law requires manufacturers of these products, on or before July 1, 2029, to register with the department, to pay a registration fee to the department, and to provide a statement of compliance certifying compliance with the applicable prohibitions on the use of PFAS to the department, as specified. Existing law authorizes the department to test products and to rely on third-party testing to determine compliance with prohibitions on the use of PFAS, as specified. Existing law requires the department to issue a notice of violation for a product in violation of the prohibitions on the use of PFAS, as provided. Existing law authorizes the department to assess an administrative penalty for a violation of these prohibitions and authorizes the department to seek an injunction to restrain a person or entity from violating these prohibitions, as specified. This bill would require the department to use this existing authority to enforce the prohibition on products that would be prohibited by the provisions in paragraph (1).

(3) Existing law requires the department, in consultation with the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment and all appropriate state agencies, to adopt regulations to establish a process to identify and prioritize chemicals or chemical ingredients in consumer products that may be considered as being a chemical of concern, as specified. Pursuant to that authority, the department adopted regulations known as the Safer Consumer Products Regulations. This bill would authorize, but not require, that those regulations evaluate uses of PFAS in products that would be prohibited by the provisions in paragraph (1). [Last amended: 4/10/2025, Status: Re-referred to Assembly Committee on Environmental Safety and Toxic Materials.](#)

AB 998, as amended, Hadwick. Household hazardous waste: vape pens.

Under existing law, the Department of Toxic Substances Control generally regulates the management and handling of hazardous waste and hazardous materials. Existing law authorizes certain entities to operate household hazardous waste collection facilities, as defined, under permits issued by the department. A violation of the hazardous waste control laws is a crime. [This bill would, until January 1, 2029, require the department to evaluate opportunities to increase safety and convenience related to the management and disposal of vape pens confiscated from students by a school, as provided, and identify any recommendations that require future legislative](#)

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action. The bill would authorize a household hazardous waste collection facility to conduct physical treatment activities involving the disassembly of household hazardous waste to separate batteries, valves, electronic components and other parts containing liquids or gases, including, but not limited to, the disassembly of vape pens, in a manner that does not result in the unauthorized release of hazardous materials. Existing law authorizes a public agency, or its contractor, to conduct a materials exchange program at a household hazardous waste collection facility to make reusable household hazardous products or materials available to recipients, as a part of its household hazardous waste collection program, if the public agency, or its contractor, complies with specified requirements. The bill would prohibit a public agency, or its contractor, from including vape pens in a materials exchange program. Because a violation of these provisions would be a crime, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program. The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement. This bill would provide that no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason. **Last amended: 7/17/2025, Status: Referred to Senate Appropriations Committee suspense file.**

AB 1304, as amended, Schultz. Paint product recovery program: paint recovery: education and outreach. Existing law establishes a paint product recovery program for the purpose of requiring paint manufacturers to develop and implement a stewardship plan to collect, transport, and process postconsumer paint to reduce the costs and environmental impacts of the disposal of postconsumer paint in this state. Existing law defines various terms for the purpose of the program. Existing law requires a stewardship plan to include consumer, contractor, and retailer education and outreach efforts to promote source reduction and recycling products, and authorizes the development and updating of education and outreach materials. This bill would state that the purpose of the program is also to require paint manufacturers to develop and implement a program to recover, reuse, and recycle postconsumer paint. The bill would define “paint recovery” to mean the process of collecting and transporting leftover paint for the purpose of reuse, processing, or recycling to reduce its environmental impact and disposal costs. The bill would require, rather than authorize, the development and updating of education and outreach materials, would require a stewardship plan’s education and outreach efforts to also promote the proper use and handling of paint products, and would require those efforts to include investment in the training of California’s future workforce by working with California apprenticeship programs for training apprentices and journey-level painters. **Last amended: 4/03/2025, Status: In Assembly Appropriations Committee, Held under submission.**

AB 1325, as amended, Michelle Rodriguez. Lubricants and waste oil: producer responsibility.

(1) Under existing law, as part of the hazardous waste control laws, the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) generally regulates the management and handling of hazardous waste and hazardous materials. Existing law authorizes a public agency, as defined, to operate a household hazardous waste collection facility under permit from DTSC. The California Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989, which is administered by the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle), requires a city and a county to prepare and submit to CalRecycle a countywide integrated waste management plan. The act requires the plan to include a household hazardous waste element that identifies a program in each city and county for the safe collection, recycling, treatment, and disposal of hazardous wastes that are generated by households. The California Oil Recycling Enhancement Act, administered by CalRecycle, establishes a used oil recycling program to promote and develop alternatives to illegal disposal of used oil. The act

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imposes a charge for every gallon of lubricating oil sold or transferred in the state, or imported into the state for use in the state, as specified. The act requires these charges to be deposited into the California Used Oil Recycling Fund, which is continuously appropriated to, among others, pay recycling incentives and to implement local used oil collection programs, as provided. This bill would make the act, as amended by this bill, inoperative upon the completion of specified conditions, including that CalRecycle submits a letter to the relevant committees of the Legislature indicating that specified conditions have been met and that CalRecycle is prepared to implement a lubricant and waste oil responsibility program as discussed below. This bill would create a producer responsibility program for lubricants and waste oil and require a producer responsibility organization (PRO) to provide a convenient collection and management system for covered products at no cost to residents or local governments. The bill would define “covered product” to mean a petroleum-based automotive product and other related products, as specified. The bill would require a producer of a covered product to register with the PRO, which would be required to develop and implement a producer responsibility plan for the collection, transportation, and the safe and proper management of covered products. The bill would require CalRecycle, in coordination with DTSC, to adopt regulations to implement the program with an effective date no earlier than July 1, 2028. This bill would require the PRO, within 12 months of the effective date of the regulations, to submit a product responsibility plan to CalRecycle. The bill would require the plan to include specified elements, including a funding mechanism that provides sufficient funding to carry out the plan. The bill would require, within 6 months of receipt of the plan, CalRecycle, in collaboration with DTSC, to approve, approve in part, or disapprove the plan, as specified. The bill would require CalRecycle to notify the PRO of its decision. If CalRecycle does not approve the plan in full, then the bill would require CalRecycle to specify the reasons for disapproval or identify the portions of the partially approved plan that do not comply with the program, as applicable. The bill would require the PRO to submit a revised plan if its plan is not fully approved. The bill would conditionally approve a plan if CalRecycle does not approve, approve in part, or disapprove a plan within one year of receipt of the plan. This bill would require the PRO to implement its plan within 90 days of approval. The bill would require the plan to be fully funded in a manner that equitably distributes the plan’s costs among participant producers, as specified. The bill would require the PRO to reimburse local jurisdictions for costs associated with collecting illegally dumped covered products and for providing a convenient collection system for covered products if the PRO’s plan relies on local jurisdictions to collect or manage covered products. This bill would require the PRO to prepare and submit to CalRecycle an annual report describing the activities carried out pursuant to the plan. The bill would require the PRO to retain specified documents, annually audit its accounting books, and make documents available to CalRecycle for review, as specified. The bill would require all reports and records provided to CalRecycle pursuant to the program to be provided under the penalty of perjury. By expanding the scope of a crime, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program. This bill would require a participant producer, through the PRO, to pay CalRecycle, on an unspecified schedule, an annual administrative charge, as determined by CalRecycle and DTSC. The bill would require the charge be set at an amount that is adequate to cover CalRecycle’s and DTSC’s actual and reasonable costs of administering and enforcing the program. The bill would provide for the imposition of administrative civil penalties on producers and other specified persons who violate the program. The bill would establish the Lubricant and Waste Oil Producer Responsibility Fund in the State Treasury and would require the administrative charges collected by CalRecycle to be deposited into that fund for expenditure by CalRecycle, upon appropriation by the Legislature, to cover CalRecycle’s cost to implement the program. The bill would also establish the Lubricant and Waste Oil Penalty Account in the Lubricant and Waste

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Oil Producer Responsibility Fund and would require that the civil penalties collected by CalRecycle pursuant to the program be deposited into that account, for expenditure by CalRecycle, upon appropriation by the Legislature, for activities related to the collection, reuse, and recycling of covered products, grants for related purposes, and the administration and enforcement of the program.

(2) Existing law, the Plastic Pollution Prevention and Packaging Producer Responsibility Act, establishes a producer responsibility program designed to ensure that producers of single-use packaging and food service ware covered by that program take responsibility for the costs associated with the end-of-life management of that material and ensure that the material is recyclable or compostable. The act requires producers, either individually or through participation in a producer responsibility organization, to have an approved plan that, among other things, describe how the producer or organization will comply with the act. This bill would exempt a product from the act if the product is included in an approved product responsibility plan pursuant to the lubricant and waste oil producer responsibility program, discussed above.

(3) Existing constitutional provisions require that a statute that limits the right of access to the meetings of public bodies or the writings of public officials and agencies be adopted with findings demonstrating the interest protected by the limitation and the need for protecting that interest. This bill would make legislative findings to that effect.

(4) The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement. This bill would provide that no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason. [Last amended: 3/24/2025, Status: with Assembly Natural Resources Committee, Hearing canceled at author's request 4/21/2025.](#)

SB 404, as amended, Caballero. Hazardous materials: metal shredding facilities.

Existing law authorizes the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC), in consultation with the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery, the State Water Resources Control Board, and affected local air quality management districts, to adopt regulations to establish management standards for metal shredding facilities for hazardous waste management activities within the DTSC's jurisdiction, as provided. Existing law provides that treated metal shredder waste that is managed in accordance with those regulations is deemed to be solid waste, and not hazardous waste, as provided. This bill would repeal those provisions. The bill would establish a comprehensive scheme for the regulation of metal shredding facilities that would be administered by the DTSC pursuant to authority separate from laws governing the control of hazardous waste. The bill would prohibit an owner or operator from operating a metal shredding facility, as defined, in the state unless they have a permit from the DTSC or are deemed to have a permit. The bill would prescribe the requirements for obtaining a permit, for being deemed to have a permit, for operating a metal shredding facility, and for transporting certain materials related to metal shredding, as specified. The bill would require, before a decision is made to approve or deny the application, the DTSC to hold a public meeting, as provided. [The bill would require the department to take final action on a permit application by an existing facility within 3 years, as provided. The bill would require the department to post on its internet website general information about each metal shredding facility that has applied for or obtained a permit, and to conduct at least one site visit to the applicant's facility after receipt of the permit application.](#) The bill would provide that certain materials related to metal shredding are not hazardous waste if they meet specified requirements. The bill would require any report required to be submitted by a metal shredding facility pursuant to a permit issued to be signed by the owner or operator and certified under penalty of law, including

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criminal penalties, as specified. Because the bill would expand the scope of a crime, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program. The bill would require an owner or operator of a metal shredding facility to report to the DTSC certain emergency situations, as specified. The bill would require an owner or operator of a metal shredding facility to submit to the DTSC a closure plan and a cost estimate for closing the metal shredding facility, as specified. [The bill would also require the owner or operator of a metal shredding facility to provide written notice to the department at least 60 days before transferring ownership or operation of the facility.](#) The bill would authorize the DTSC to enforce these provisions by revoking permits and by other specified means. The bill would authorize the DTSC to adopt regulations for the operation of metal shredding facilities as necessary to implement the requirements of the bill. The bill would require the DTSC to post information provided by owners and operators regarding a metal shredding facility on the department's internet website in a manner that is readily accessible to the public, except as otherwise required pursuant to existing law. Existing law authorizes the DTSC to collect an annual fee from all metal shredding facilities subject to the requirements of hazardous waste control laws or the DTSC's management standards for metal shredding facilities, as provided. Existing law requires the DTSC to adopt regulations necessary to administer the fee and authorizes the DTSC to adopt those regulations using emergency procedures, as provided. Existing law requires the Controller to establish a separate subaccount in the Hazardous Waste Control Account and for all fees collected to be placed into that subaccount, to be available for expenditure by the DTSC upon appropriation by the Legislature. This bill would instead require the DTSC to impose an annual fee on all metal shredding facilities subject to the provisions of this bill, as specified. The bill would require the DTSC to adopt regulations necessary to administer the fee and would authorize the DTSC to adopt the regulations using emergency procedures, as specified. [The bill would require a person who applies for a metal shredding facility permit to enter into a written agreement with the department pursuant to which that person would be required to reimburse the department for the direct costs reasonably incurred by the department in processing the application, as provided.](#) The bill would require the Controller to establish a new and separate Metal Shredders Facility Account and would require all fees collected to be placed into that account and made available for expenditure by the DTSC solely for the purpose of implementation and administration of these provisions, upon appropriation by the Legislature. The bill would include findings that changes proposed by this bill address a matter of statewide concern rather than a municipal affair and, therefore, apply to all cities, including charter cities. The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement. This bill would provide that no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason. [Last amended: 7/17/2025, Status: with Assembly Appropriations, committee hearing scheduled for 8/29/2025. Vetoed by Governor 10/13/2025, In Senate. Consideration of Governor's veto pending.](#)

SB 501, as amended, Allen. Household Hazardous Waste Producer Responsibility Act.

(1) Under existing law, as part of the hazardous waste control laws, the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) generally regulates the management and handling of hazardous waste and hazardous materials. Existing law authorizes a public agency, as defined, to operate a household hazardous waste collection facility under permit from DTSC. Existing law, the Plastic Pollution Prevention and Packaging Producer Responsibility Act, establishes a producer responsibility program designed to ensure that producers of single-use packaging and food service ware covered by that program take responsibility for the costs associated with the end-of-life management of that material and ensure that the material is recyclable or compostable.

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This bill would create a producer responsibility program for products containing household hazardous waste and would require a producer responsibility organization (PRO) to ensure the safe and convenient collection and management of covered products at no cost to consumers or local governments. The bill would define “covered product” to mean a consumer product that is ignitable, toxic, corrosive, or reactive, or that meets other specified criteria, except as specified. The bill would require a producer of a covered product to register with the PRO, which would be required to develop and implement a producer responsibility plan for the collection, transportation, and the safe and proper management of covered products. The bill would require DTSC to adopt regulations to implement the program with an effective date no earlier than July 1, 2028. This bill would require the PRO, within 12 months of the effective date of the regulations, to submit a producer responsibility plan to DTSC. The bill would require the plan to include specified elements, including a funding mechanism to fully fund the PRO and the program. The bill would require, within 6 months of receipt of the plan, DTSC to approve, approve in part, or disapprove the plan, as specified. The bill would require DTSC to notify the PRO of its decision. If DTSC does not approve the plan in full, then the bill would require DTSC to specify the reasons for disapproval or identify the portions of the partially approved plan that do not comply with the program, as applicable. The bill would require the PRO to submit a revised plan if its plan is not fully approved. The bill would conditionally approve a plan if DTSC does not approve, approve in part, or disapprove a plan within one year of receipt of the plan. This bill would require the PRO to implement its plan within 90 days of approval. The bill would require the plan to be fully funded in a manner that equitably distributes the plan’s costs among participant producers, as specified. The bill would require the PRO to reimburse local jurisdictions for costs associated with collecting illegally dumped covered products and for providing a convenient collection system for covered products if the PRO’s plan relies on local jurisdictions to collect or manage covered products. This bill would require the PRO to prepare and submit to DTSC an annual report describing the activities carried out pursuant to the plan. The bill would require the PRO to retain specified documents, annually audit its accounting books, and make documents available to DTSC for review, as specified. The bill would require all reports and records provided to DTSC pursuant to the program to be provided under penalty of perjury. By expanding the scope of a crime, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program. This bill would require a participant producer, through the PRO, to pay DTSC, on an unspecified schedule, an annual administrative charge, as determined by DTSC. The bill would require the charge be set at an amount that is adequate to cover DTSC’s full costs of administering and enforcing the program. The bill would provide for the imposition of administrative civil penalties on producers and other specified persons who violate the program. The bill would establish the Household Hazardous Waste Producer Responsibility Fund in the State Treasury and would require the administrative charges collected by DTSC to be deposited into that fund for expenditure by DTSC, upon appropriation by the Legislature, to cover DTSC’s cost to implement the program. The bill would also establish the Household Hazardous Waste Products Penalty Account in the Household Hazardous Waste Producer Responsibility Fund and would require that the civil penalties collected by DTSC pursuant to the program be deposited into that account, for expenditure by DTSC, upon appropriation by the Legislature, for activities related to the collection, reuse, and recycling of covered products, grants for related purposes, and the administration and enforcement of the program. This bill would require the PRO to prepare an initial statewide needs assessment designed to determine the necessary steps and investments needed for covered products to achieve the requirements and purposes of the program, as specified. The bill would provide that certain actions of the PRO or a producer are not violations of the Cartwright Act or certain provisions regulating unfair business practices or unfair competition.

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Bills relating to waste management, recycling, and hazardous materials

(2) Existing law established the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) to, among other things, promote waste management in the order of source reduction, then recycling and composting, and then environmentally safe transformation and environmentally safe land disposal, as provided. Pursuant to that authority, CalRecycle publishes various waste characterization studies. This bill would require CalRecycle, in support of the program, to include in updates to the applicable waste characterization study the amount of covered products that were properly and improperly disposed of, as specified. (3) Existing constitutional provisions require that a statute that limits the right of access to the meetings of public bodies or the writings of public officials and agencies be adopted with findings demonstrating the interest protected by the limitation and the need for protecting that interest. This bill would make legislative findings to that effect. (4) The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement. This bill would provide that no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason. [Last amended: 4/07/2025, Status: Held in committee and under submission 5/23/2025.](#)

SB 561, as amended, Blakespear. Hazardous waste: Emergency Distress Flare Safe Disposal Act.

(1) Under existing law, as part of the hazardous waste control laws, the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) generally regulates the management and handling of hazardous waste and hazardous materials. Except as specified, a violation of the hazardous waste control laws is a crime. This bill would create a manufacturer responsibility program for the safe and proper management of emergency distress flares. The bill would define “covered product” to include certain pyrotechnic devices that meet the criteria for household hazardous waste, as specified. The bill would require a manufacturer of a covered product, individually or through a manufacturer responsibility organization, to develop and implement a manufacturer responsibility plan for the collection, transportation, and the safe and proper management of covered products, as specified. The bill would establish a process and timeline for DTSC to review and approve, disapprove, or conditionally approve a plan and for the implementation of an approved plan. The bill would require that an approved plan be published on DTSC’s internet website, except for specified manufacturer data that would not be open to public inspection. The bill would require, on or before January 1, 2027, DTSC to adopt regulations to implement the act. This bill would require a manufacturer or manufacturer responsibility organization to prepare and submit to DTSC and make publicly available an annual report describing the activities carried out pursuant to the plan. The bill would require the annual report to include an application for renewal of the manufacturer’s responsibility plan. The bill would require all reports and records provided to DTSC pursuant to the act to be provided under the penalty of perjury. By expanding the scope of a crime, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program. This bill would require a manufacturer or manufacturer responsibility organization to pay DTSC all actual and reasonable regulatory costs for DTSC to implement and enforce the act, as provided. The bill would authorize DTSC to use funds appropriated for purposes that are consistent with this act to implement and enforce the act and would require DTSC to repay those funds, as specified below. The bill would establish the Marine Flare Recovery Fund in the State Treasury and would require the charges collected by DTSC to be deposited into that account for expenditure by DTSC, upon appropriation by the Legislature, to cover DTSC’s cost to implement and enforce the act and to repay the use of specified funds, as described above. This bill would prohibit a manufacturer, retailer, dealer, importer, or distributor from selling, distributing, offering for sale, or importing a covered product in or into the state that contains perchlorate. By adding new requirements to the hazardous waste control laws, this bill

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would expand the scope of a crime and would impose a state-mandated local program. (2) Existing constitutional provisions require that a statute that limits the right of access to the meetings of public bodies or the writings of public officials and agencies be adopted with findings demonstrating the interest protected by the limitation and the need for protecting that interest. This bill would make legislative findings to that effect. (3) The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement. This bill would provide that no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason. [Last amended: 6/23/2025, Status: with Assembly Environmental Safety and Toxic Materials committee. Second hearing canceled at the request of author 7/11/2025.](#)

Illegal Disposal Site Abatement

AB 1153, as amended, Bonta. Solid waste disposal and codisposal site cleanup: illegal disposal site abatement. The California Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989, which is administered by the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery, establishes an integrated waste management program. The act requires the department to initiate a program for the cleanup of solid waste disposal sites and for cleanup of solid waste at codisposal sites where no responsible party is available to pay for timely remediation, and where cleanup is needed to protect public health and safety or the environment. Existing law provides that all expenses incurred by the department in carrying out the program are to be paid from the Solid Waste Disposal Site Cleanup Trust Fund, which is continuously appropriated to the department for purposes of the program. Existing law authorizes the department, in administering the program, to expend funds for specified purposes, including providing grants to public entities for the abatement of illegal disposal sites. This bill would additionally authorize the department to expend funds appropriated for the program for removing and disposing of recreational vehicles, as defined, for developing enforcement strategies, and for developing local enforcement teams and illegal dumping enforcement officers, as specified. By authorizing new uses of money in a continuously appropriated fund, this bill would make an appropriation. [Last amended: 4/22/2025, Status: Hearing postponed by Assembly Natural Resources committee 5/23/2025.](#)

Landfill Management

AB 28, as amended, Schiavo. Solid waste landfills: subsurface temperatures.

(1) The California Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989, administered by the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery ([CalRecycle](#)), generally regulates the disposal, management, and recycling of solid waste, as defined. The act authorizes [CalRecycle](#) to certify a local enforcement agency and requires [CalRecycle](#) and certified local enforcement agencies to perform specified functions with regard to the regulation of solid waste management, including issuing and enforcing solid waste facility permits. The act prohibits a person from operating a solid waste facility without a solid waste facilities permit, as provided. The California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 charges the State Air Resources Board with monitoring and regulating sources of emissions of greenhouse gases that cause global warming in order to reduce emission of greenhouse gases. The act requires the state board to adopt rules and regulations to achieve the maximum technologically feasible and cost-effective greenhouse gas emissions reductions, as provided. [This bill would require the state board to amend its regulations on methane emissions](#)

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from a municipal solid waste landfill (MSW landfill) to establish requirements for the monitoring of landfill gas temperature. The bill would require the operator of an MSW landfill to monitor landfill gas temperature in accordance with those regulations. If the gas temperature is 131 degrees Fahrenheit or higher for longer than 2 consecutive monthly monitoring periods covering 60 consecutive days, and if other criteria established by CalRecycle are met ~~or exceeded~~, the bill would require the operator of the MSW landfill to take specified actions, including, but not limited to, ~~working collaboratively with CalRecycle and the local enforcement agency, as defined, to develop and implement filing~~ a corrective action plan ~~for review by the local enforcement agency, as defined, and the department~~. If the gas temperature is 146 degrees Fahrenheit or higher for longer than ~~2-3~~ consecutive monthly monitoring periods covering 60 consecutive days, and if other criteria established by CalRecycle are met ~~or exceeded~~, the bill would require additional actions, including, but not limited to, the ~~California Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA) forming operator of the MSW landfill submitting corrective action plans to~~ a multiagency coordination group, ~~established by the California Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA), to collaborate with the operator of the MSW landfill to develop and implement another corrective action plan, as specified~~. If the gas temperature is ~~162~~ 170 degrees Fahrenheit or higher for longer than ~~2-3~~ consecutive monthly monitoring periods covering 60 consecutive days, and if other criteria established by CalRecycle are met ~~or exceeded~~, the bill would require additional actions, as specified. The bill would require CalRecycle to establish the other criteria by emergency regulation.

If an operator of an MSW landfill fails to provide notice of a sustained gas temperature by the specified due date, the bill would authorize CalRecycle or a local enforcement agency to impose a penalty of \$10,000 per day. The bill would require CalRecycle or a local enforcement agency to impose a penalty not to exceed \$1,000,000 for each week that the gas temperature is 162 degrees Fahrenheit or higher for longer than 2 consecutive monthly monitoring periods covering 60 consecutive days, if specified criteria are met ~~or exceeded~~. The bill would require all penalties to be deposited into the Landfill Subsurface Fire Mitigation Account, which the bill would create, to be used upon appropriation by the Legislature to mitigate harm to a person or community adversely affected by a solid waste landfill with a gas temperature of 131 degrees Fahrenheit or higher for longer than 2 consecutive monthly monitoring periods covering 60 consecutive days. The bill would require any permit suspended pursuant to these provisions to be reinstated when, among others, gas temperature decreases to below 131 degrees Fahrenheit for 3 consecutive monthly monitoring periods covering 60 consecutive days or longer, as specified. This bill would make an operator of an MSW landfill liable to CalRecycle and the local enforcement agency for their costs, as specified. The bill would exempt from the Administrative Procedure Act specified requirements that the bill authorizes CalRecycle to impose on the operator of an MSW landfill. By creating new duties for a local enforcement agency, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program. Existing federal regulations require the owner of an MSW landfill with a gas collection and control system to operate each interior wellhead in the collection system with a landfill gas temperature less than 131 degrees Fahrenheit, unless the federal Environmental Protection Agency approves a higher operating temperature, as provided. This bill would require an operator of an MSW landfill to provide notice to the local enforcement agency, CalRecycle, and any other state agency designated by CalEPA regarding a request for a higher operating temperature, as specified. (2) This bill would declare its provisions to be severable. (3) The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement. This bill would provide that, if the

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Commission on State Mandates determines that the bill contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement for those costs shall be made pursuant to the statutory provisions noted above.

[Last amended: 9/03/2025, Status Ordered to inactive file at the request of Senator Blakespear. 9/08/2025.](#)

SB 594, as amended, Padilla. Waste discharge permits: landfills.

Under existing law, the State Water Resources Control Board and the 9 California regional water quality control boards regulate water quality and prescribe waste discharge requirements in accordance with the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act and the federal national pollutant discharge elimination system permit program established by the federal Clean Water Act.

The California Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989 prohibits a regional board from issuing a waste discharge permit for a new landfill, or a lateral expansion of an existing landfill, that is used for the disposal of nonhazardous solid waste if the land has been primarily used at any time for the mining or excavation of gravel or sand, except as specified. This bill would prohibit a state agency from issuing a waste discharge permit for a new Class III landfill, as defined, [unless certain conditions are met, including, but not limited to, the county board of supervisors for the county in which the proposed project resides has held a separate publicly noticed hearing to consider whether the proposed landfill is consistent with the goals, policies, and objectives of the environmental justice element of the county's general plan. To the extent that the bill would require counties to perform additional duties related to application for a new Class III landfill, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program. The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement. This bill would provide that, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that the bill contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement for those costs shall be made pursuant to the statutory provisions noted above.](#) [Last amended: 6/24/2025, Status: first hearing canceled at the request of author 7/01/2025.](#)

Plastics

AB 823, as amended, Boerner. Solid waste: plastic microbeads: plastic glitter.

The Plastic Microbeads Nuisance Prevention Law imposes a civil penalty not to exceed \$2,500 per day for each violation of the prohibition, as provided, and authorizes the Attorney General and local officials to enforce the prohibition. This bill would, on and after January 1, 2029, prohibit a person from selling, offering for sale, distributing, or offering for promotional purposes in this state a personal care product containing plastic glitter, or a personal care product in a non-rinse-off product or a cleaning product containing one ppm or more by weight of plastic microbeads that are used as an abrasive, as specified. The bill would authorize, until January 1, 2030, a person to continue to sell, offer for sale, distribute, or offer for promotional purposes in this state an existing stock of personal care products containing plastic glitter, as specified. By adding these prohibitions to the Plastic Microbeads Nuisance Prevention Law, the bill would impose the civil penalty for violations of these prohibitions. [Last amended: 5/23/2025, Status: Senate 3rd reading of Assembly Bills 8/27/2025. Vetoed by Governor 10/11/2025, Consideration of Governor's veto pending.](#)

AB 973, as amended, Hoover. Recycling: plastic trash bags: plastic packaging and products.

(1) The California Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989, administered by the Department of

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Resources Recycling and Recovery, creates a program for the recycling of rigid plastic packaging containers. The program defines “rigid plastic packaging container” to mean a plastic package having a relatively inflexible finite shape or form, with a capacity between 8 fluid ounces and 5 fluid gallons, that is capable of maintaining its shape while holding other products, including, but not limited to, bottles, cartons, and other receptacles, for sale or distribution in the state. The program generally requires a rigid plastic packaging container sold or offered for sale in this state to meet one of specified criteria, including, but not limited to, having been made from 25% postconsumer material or being a reusable package or a refillable package, unless a waiver or an exemption applies. Notwithstanding these provisions, the program deems a manufacturer in compliance with the program if the manufacturer demonstrates that it, or another company under the same corporate ownership, either consumed or arranged for the purchase and consumption of certain amounts of postconsumer material generated in the state for the manufacture of rigid plastic packaging containers or other plastic products or packaging not subject to the program, as provided. The program makes a violation of these provisions a public offense punishable by a fine of not more than \$100,000. The program also subjects a violation of these provisions to a civil penalty of not more than \$50,000, as provided. The program requires the department to deposit all penalties and fines into the Rigid Container Account in the Integrated Waste Management Fund in the State Treasury. The program requires the moneys in the account to be expended by the department, upon appropriation by the Legislature, to assist local governmental agencies to develop and implement collection and processing systems for the recycling of materials covered by the program, for the development of markets for these materials, and for the department’s costs of implementing the program. The program requires the department to adopt regulations to implement the program, as provided. This bill would repeal the program and replace it with a new program for recycling plastic packaging and products. The bill would require, on or before July 1, 2026, and annually thereafter, a manufacturer of a covered product, as defined, to pay an annual registration charge and to register with the department, as specified. The bill would require a manufacturer to provide certain information during registration, including, but not limited to, the brand name of each of the manufacturer’s covered products. The bill would subject a manufacturer that is not in compliance with the registration requirement to an administrative civil penalty of not more than \$5,000 per day per violation, as specified. The bill would, on and after January 1, 2029, require a manufacturer to include, as part of its annual registration, proof of third-party certification of the postconsumer recycled content of each of its covered products. The bill would require the third-party certification to be provided under penalty of perjury. By expanding the scope of a crime, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program. This bill would require a manufacturer to meet certain annual minimum postconsumer recycled content percentages for covered products, as specified. The bill would authorize the department to grant a waiver for up to 2 years, upon application, from these requirements, as specified. The bill would require certain information to be included in a waiver application and would require a waiver application charge not to exceed \$1,000. The bill would require the department to assess an administrative civil penalty for a violation on a per-pound basis for each pound of virgin material that was used by a manufacturer in its products instead of the minimum postconsumer recycled content, as specified. The bill would authorize the department to reduce this administrative civil penalty if the manufacturer submits, and the department approves, a corrective action plan, as specified. This bill would require the department to deposit all penalties and fines paid pursuant to the program into the Rigid Container Account, which this bill would continue in existence. The bill would require moneys deposited into the account to be expended by the department, upon appropriation by the Legislature, to assist local governmental agencies to develop and implement

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Bills relating to waste management, recycling, and hazardous materials collection and processing systems for the recycling of materials that are subject to the program, for the development of markets for these materials, and for the department's actual and reasonable costs of implementing the program. This bill would require, on and after April 1, 2028, a manufacturer to provide to the department, in a format and manner prescribed by the department, an annual report that includes specified information regarding amounts and types of plastics used in covered products. The bill would exempt confidential and proprietary information, collected by the department from manufacturers for purpose of the program, from disclosure pursuant to the California Public Records Act. This bill would authorize a manufacturer to authorize an organization to act on its behalf in complying with certain requirements, including, but not limited to, registration and annual reporting requirements. The bill would exempt certain covered products from the program, as specified. This bill would require the department to adopt regulations to implement and enforce the program, as specified. The bill would require the department to establish an electronic registration process on its internet website.

(2) The California Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989 requires a manufacturer of certain plastic trash bags to ensure that the recycled plastic postconsumer material in the bag is equal to at least 10% of the weight of the bag, or that at least 30% of the weight of the material used in all of the manufacturer's plastic products is recycled plastic postconsumer material, as provided. Existing law requires a manufacturer of a plastic trash bag to submit an annual report to the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery certifying compliance with these postconsumer materials requirements, as specified. Existing law requires the department to survey manufacturers and report to the Legislature on, among others, the quantity of recycled plastic postconsumer material provided by suppliers within the state and the quantity of the material provided by suppliers outside the state. Existing law requires a wholesaler of plastic trash bags to annually certify to the department the name and physical location of each manufacturer from whom it purchased plastic trash bags, as provided. Existing law authorizes the department to adopt regulations to implement these provision, as specified. Existing law prohibits a supplier, manufacturer, or wholesaler, as provided, that is not in compliance with these provisions from being eligible for a state contract or subcontract, as provided. This bill would repeal these provisions.

(3) Existing constitutional provisions require that a statute that limits the right of access to the meetings of public bodies or the writings of public officials and agencies be adopted with findings demonstrating the interest protected by the limitation and the need for protecting that interest.

(4) The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement. This bill would provide that no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason. [Last amended: 4/22/2025, Status: Held under submission in Assembly Judiciary Committee 5/23/2025.](#)

AB 1274, as introduced, Gabriel. Recycling: beverage containers. Existing law establishes the California Beverage Container Recycling and Litter Reduction Act, which requires that every beverage container sold or offered for sale in this state have a refund value. The act requires a beverage distributor to pay a redemption payment to the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery for every beverage container sold or offered for sale in the state to a dealer, and requires the department to deposit those amounts in the California Beverage Container Recycling Fund. This bill would state the intent of the Legislature to enact subsequent legislation to implement policies to encourage the use of in-state collected plastic beverage container materials for reuse in manufacturing and packaging in state. [Last amended: N/A, Status: Active bill pending referral.](#)

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SB 14, as amended, Blakespear. State agencies: solid waste diversion: single-use plastic bottles.

(1) The California Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989, which is administered by the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery, establishes an integrated waste management program. The act requires each state agency to divert at least 50% of all solid waste through source reduction, recycling, and composting activities. “State agency” is defined, for purposes of these requirements, to include the California Community Colleges. The act requires each state agency to develop and adopt an integrated waste management plan to reduce solid waste, reuse materials whenever possible, recycle recyclable materials, and procure products with recycled content in all state agency offices and facilities, including any leased locations, as provided. The act requires each state agency to submit an annual report to the department summarizing its progress in reducing solid waste by at least 50%, as provided. This bill would require a state agency to include in its integrated waste management plan descriptions of actions to be taken to source reduce certain materials, as specified. The bill would require, on or before July 15, 2027, each state agency to submit an adopted integrated waste management plan to the department for review and approval, and would, on or before January 1, 2028, require the department to complete its review of the plans, as specified. The bill would require a state agency’s annual report to include summaries of the state agency’s compliance with the requirement to reduce solid waste by 50% and the requirements relating to the adoption of an integrated waste management plan. By imposing new duties on community colleges, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program. This bill would require the department to provide advice to help state agencies and facilities reduce solid waste by at least 50%. The bill would, on or before January 1, 2027, require the department to publish on its internet website a list of products available for purchase by state agencies that would reduce the overall amount of plastic or paper waste generated.

(2) [Existing law requires plastic beverage containers sold by a beverage manufacturer, as specified, to contain a specified average percentage of postconsumer recycled plastic. Between January 1, 2025, and December 31, 2029, inclusive, existing law requires that percentage to be no less than 25% postconsumer recycled plastic per year, and on and after January 1, 2030, no less than 50% postconsumer recycled plastic per year. This bill would require, on and after January 1, 2026, reportable purchases by state agencies of plastic beverage containers to be of plastic beverage containers with no less than those above-referenced percentages of postconsumer recycled plastic per year.](#)

(3) The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement. This bill would provide that, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that the bill contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement for those costs shall be made pursuant to the statutory provisions noted above. [Last amended: 7/09/2025, Status: Placed on Assembly Appropriations suspense file. Committee hearing date 8/29/2025 - Held in committee and under submission.](#)

Recycling

AB 80, as amended, Aguiar-Curry. Carpet recycling.

(1) The California Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989, administered by the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery, generally regulates the disposal, management, and recycling of solid waste. The act establishes stewardship programs for various products, including, among others, carpet. The act includes a product stewardship for carpet program and a successor carpet

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producer responsibility program, and requires the product stewardship for carpet program to become inoperative upon the completion of certain conditions related to the implementation of the successor carpet producer responsibility program. Existing law, the product stewardship for carpet program, requires a manufacturer of carpets sold in this state, individually or through a carpet stewardship organization, to submit a carpet stewardship plan to the department, which is required to include specified elements, including achieving specified carpet recycling rates and a funding mechanism that provides sufficient funding to carry out the plan. Existing law authorizes the department to administratively impose a civil penalty of \$10,000 per day on any person in violation of the program or \$25,000 per day if the violation is intentional, knowing, or negligent, as specified. This bill would instead authorize the department to impose administrative, rather than civil, penalties in those amounts, and to impose an administrative penalty of \$25,000 per day if the violation is intentional or knowing. Existing law requires a carpet stewardship organization to include nonvoting board members with representation from, among others, a retailer that sells carpet. This bill would instead require the stewardship organization to create a governing board for the stewardship program, as specified.

(2) Existing law, the successor carpet producer responsibility program, requires producers of covered products to form and join a single producer responsibility organization (PRO) for the collection and recycling of a covered product. Existing law defines a “covered product” as carpet, as defined, and requires the PRO to develop a producer responsibility plan for the collection, transportation, recycling, and the safe and proper management of covered products in the state. Existing law requires, no later than January 1, 2029, a person who removes a covered product as part of the installation of a covered product to transport, or contract to transport, all of the removed covered product to an approved collection site, as provided. Under existing law, an approved collection site is a solid waste facility that has agreed to be a collection site for the PRO. This bill would exempt a covered product from this transport requirement if certain conditions are met, including that it is returned to the producer. The bill would expand approved collection sites to include certain carpet recycling centers, municipal facilities, and retailers. Existing law requires the governing board of a PRO to include 4 nonvoting members, including, but not limited to, a nonvoting member representing a nonprofit organization established to promote a circular economy and to address environmental issues. Existing law requires the PRO to submit an annual report to the department on or before July 1 of each year, as provided. Existing law requires a producer to publish on its internet website, for each of its covered products, an environmental product declaration that identifies a covered product’s components, as provided. This bill would instead require one voting and 5 nonvoting members, as specified. The bill would require the annual report to be submitted on or before September 1 of each year, instead of July 1 of each year. The bill would instead require a producer to publish on its internet website, for each of its covered products, the components that constitute more than 1% of the product’s weight and any component that is a hazardous chemical, as specified. Existing law requires the PRO to submit to the department an annual report, as specified, and to make the report publicly available on the PRO’s internet website. Existing law requires the PRO to provide annual grants to apprenticeship programs for training carpet installers in proper carpet recycling techniques, as provided. This bill would require the PRO to include in its annual report specified information related to the grants and incentive payments provided pursuant to the program, as specified. Existing law requires a producer responsibility plan, among other things, to explain how producers will use standardized stamping or some other means to provide a visual mark on the back of a covered product that is a synthetic material to allow expeditious sorting of the carpet, as provided. Existing law requires the department to adopt regulations to implement the program with an effective date no earlier than

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[December 31, 2026](#). This bill would instead require a producer responsibility plan to explain how producers will use standardized stamping or some other means to provide a visual mark on the back of a covered product that provides the name of the producer, the date of manufacture, and a listing of the types of face fibers and backing materials contained in the product. The bill would instead require the department to adopt the regulations no later than December 31, 2026. Existing law requires a producer responsibility plan in effect as of January 1, 2025, to continue in effect, as provided, until it expires or is revoked, except that the PRO is required to submit an amendment to conform the producer responsibility plan to certain requirements. This bill would eliminate the requirement to submit an amendment to the producer responsibility plan. [Last amended: 7/09/2025, Status: Senate Appropriations Committee, In committee: Held under submission 8/29/2025](#)

AB 473, as introduced, Wilson. Environmental advertising: recyclability. Existing law prohibits a person from offering for sale, selling, distributing, or importing into the state any product or packaging for which a deceptive or misleading claim about the recyclability of the product or packaging is made. Existing law provides that a product or packaging that displays a chasing arrows symbol, among other symbols, statements, or directions, is deemed to be a deceptive or misleading claim unless (1) the product or packaging is considered recyclable in the state pursuant to specified criteria and (2) is of a material type and form that routinely becomes feedstock used in the production of new products or packaging, except as provided. Existing law, notwithstanding specified criteria, provides that a product or packaging is recyclable in the state if the product or packaging is part of, and in compliance with, a program established pursuant to state or federal law governing the recyclability or disposal of that product or packaging, as provided. This bill would delete the latter provision and would, notwithstanding specified provisions, require, before January 1, 2027, that a product or packaging that is a covered material, as defined, be considered recyclable in the state if the producer is approved by a producer responsibility organization to participate in that organization. On or after January 1, 2027, and before January 1, 2032, the bill would require, notwithstanding specified provisions, that a product or packaging that is a covered material be considered recyclable in the state if the producer is, among other things, in compliance with the requirements of the Plastic Pollution Prevention and Packaging Producer Responsibility Act. [Last amended: N/A, Status: Referred to Assembly Committee on Natural Resources.](#)

AB 899, as amended, Ransom. Beverage containers: recycled glass: market development. The California Beverage Container Recycling and Litter Reduction Act, a violation of which is a crime, requires a distributor of beverage containers, as defined, to pay to the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery a monthly redemption payment for every beverage container sold or transferred, as provided. The act requires the department to deposit those amounts into the California Beverage Container Recycling Fund. The fund is continuously appropriated to, among other things, pay refund values and administrative fees to processors that receive empty beverage containers from recyclers. The act authorizes, until January 1, 2028, the department to pay a market development payment to a glass beverage container manufacturer who purchases recycled glass collected within this state for use in manufacturing new beverage containers in this state, as provided. The act requires the department to set the market development payment at an amount not to exceed \$50 per ton. The act continuously appropriates \$60,000,000 annually from the fund to the department to make market development payments. This bill would authorize the department to set the market development payment [at different levels, but would prohibit that payment from exceeding \\$150 per ton](#). The bill would, on and after January 1, 2028, and until

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Bills relating to waste management, recycling, and hazardous materials

January 1, 2030, authorize the department to expend \$20,000,000 annually from the fund, upon appropriation by the Legislature, for glass market development payments. [Last amended: 8/18/2025, Status: In Senate Appropriations Committee, referred to suspense file. Committee hearing date 8/29/2025. Approved by the Governor and chaptered by Secretary of State 10/11/2025](#)

AB 978, as amended, Hoover. Department of Transportation and local agencies: streets and highways: recycled materials.

The California Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989 requires the Director of Transportation, upon consultation with the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery, to review and modify all bid specifications relating to the purchase of paving materials and base, subbase, and pervious backfill materials using certain recycled materials. Existing law requires the specifications to be based on standards developed by the Department of Transportation for recycled paving materials and for recycled base, subbase, and pervious backfill materials. Existing law requires a local agency that has jurisdiction over a street or highway, to the extent feasible and cost effective, to apply standard specifications that allow for the use of recycled materials in streets and highways, except as provided. Existing law requires, until January 1, 2027, those standard specifications to allow recycled materials at or above the level allowed in the department's standard specifications that went into effect on October 22, 2018, for specified materials. This bill would indefinitely require a local [agency's](#) standard specifications to allow recycled materials at a level no less than the level allowed in the department's specifications for those specified materials. If a local agency's standard specifications do not allow for the use of recycled materials at a level that is equal to or greater than the level allowed in the department's standard specifications on the basis that the use of those recycled materials at those levels is not feasible, the bill would [authorize a person bidding on a contract to supply materials subject to those specifications to request](#) the local agency to provide the reason for that determination upon [request and would require the local agency to respond to that request, as specified](#). By increasing the duties of local agencies, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program. Existing law requires the Department of Transportation and a local agency that has jurisdiction over a street or highway, to the extent feasible and cost effective, to use advanced technologies and material recycling techniques that reduce the cost of maintaining and rehabilitating streets and highways and that exhibit reduced levels of greenhouse gas emissions through material choice and construction method. This bill would eliminate this requirement. The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement. This bill would provide that, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that the bill contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement for those costs shall be made pursuant to the statutory provisions noted above. [Last amended: 7/01/2025, Status: Senate Appropriations committee, read a second time. Ordered to third reading. Approved by the Governor and chaptered by Secretary of State 10/07/2025](#)

SB 45, as amended, Padilla. Recycling: beverage containers: tethered plastic caps.

The California Beverage Container Recycling and Litter Reduction Act, which is administered by the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery, is established to promote beverage container recycling. The act defines "beverage container" to mean the individual, separate bottle, can, jar, carton, or other receptacle, however denominated, in which a beverage is sold, and that is constructed of metal, glass, or plastic, or other material, or any combination of these materials, but does not include cups or other similar open or loosely sealed receptacles. A violation of the act

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Bills relating to waste management, recycling, and hazardous materials is a crime. Existing law authorizes the department, subject to the availability of funds, to pay a quality incentive payment of up to \$180 per ton to qualified recyclers for thermoform plastic containers diverted from curbside recycling programs, as provided. This bill would delete that authorization. The bill would instead require, on and after January 1, 2027, if a beverage is subject to the act and offered for sale in a plastic beverage container with a plastic cap, beverage manufacturers to ensure that the container has a cap that is tethered to the container that prevents the separation of the cap from the container when the cap is removed from the container by the consumer. The bill would exempt, until January 1, 2028, any type of beverage container with a recycling rate of better than 70% for calendar years 2022 and 2023, as determined by the department, from compliance with that requirement. The bill would exempt beverage containers with a capacity of 2 liters or more and beverage containers that contain beer or other malt beverages, wine or distilled spirits, or 100% fruit juice from the scope of the bill. The bill would also exempt a refillable plastic beverage container and a beverage manufacturer that sold or transferred 16,000,000 or fewer plastic beverage containers, as provided, during the previous calendar year from the scope of the bill. By creating a new requirement under the act, a violation of which would be a crime, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program. The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement. This bill would provide that no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason. [Last amended: 3/05/2025, Status: Senate Appropriations Committee. Held in committee and under submission 5/23/2025.](#)

SB 235, as amended, McNerney. Recycling: precious metals and critical minerals: report. Existing law establishes in the California Environmental Protection Agency the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery, which administers various solid waste management and recycling programs. This bill would require the department to draft and submit a report to the Legislature, on or before January 1, 2028, relating to the in-state collection, recycling, reuse, and stockpiling for domestic consumption of precious metals, critical minerals, as defined, and other similar valuable materials as reasonably decided by the department, contained within products in the state, as specified. The bill would require the department to provide opportunities for public input and to perform outreach to potentially interested parties, as specified. The bill also would authorize the department to make recommendations to promote a circular economy for precious metals, critical minerals, and other similar valuable materials within products, including, but not limited to, best practices for product design to optimize the ability to recycle precious metals, critical minerals, and other similar valuable materials at the product's end of life. [Last amended: 3/20/2025, Status: Senate Appropriations Committee. Held in committee and under submission 5/23/2025.](#)

Waste Reduction

AB 70, as amended, Aguiar-Curry. Solid waste: organic waste: diversion: biomethane. (1) The California Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989 generally regulates solid waste disposal, management, and recycling. The act requires each city, county, and regional agency to develop a source reduction and recycling element of an integrated waste management plan. The act requires that element to include a 50% solid waste diversion requirement, as specified, and provides that up to 10% may be achieved through biomass conversion under certain conditions, with biomass conversion defined as the production of heat, fuels, or electricity by certain means

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Bills relating to waste management, recycling, and hazardous materials from specified materials. One of the conditions for using biomass conversion to satisfy a portion of the solid waste diversion requirement is that pyrolysis not be included in the source reduction and recycling element. Pyrolysis is not defined for that purpose or for other purposes in the act. This bill would define pyrolysis as the thermal decomposition of material at elevated temperatures in the absence or near absence of oxygen. (2) Existing law requires the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery, in consultation with the State Air Resources Board, to adopt regulations, as specified, to achieve **specified reductions** in the organic waste disposed of in landfills. The department's regulations provide for, among other things, the calculation by the department of recovered organic waste product procurement targets for each local jurisdiction and a list of eligible recovered organic waste products for purposes of the procurement targets. This bill would require the department, no later than January 1, 2027, to amend those regulations to include, as a recovered organic waste product attributable to a local jurisdiction's procurement target, pipeline biomethane converted exclusively from organic waste, as specified. **This bill would incorporate additional changes to Section 42652.5 of the Public Resources Code proposed by AB 786 to be operative only if this bill and AB 786 are enacted and this bill is enacted last.**
Last amended: 9/05/2025, Status: Senate amendments concurred in 9/11/2025, Enrolled and sent to Governor 9/23/2025, Approved by the Governor and chaptered by Secretary of State 10/07/2025