
FACT SHEET FOR AB 283 - California Product Stewardship Act

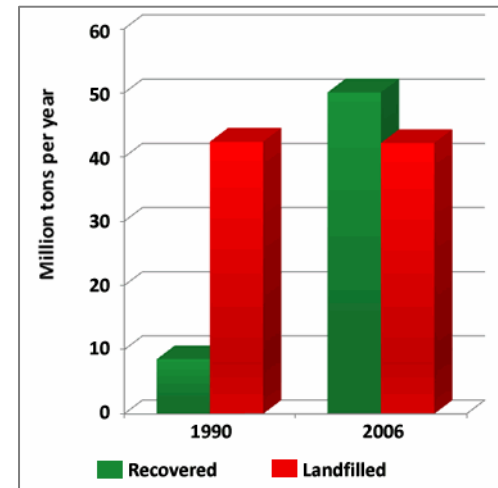
SUMMARY

AB 283 proposes a comprehensive **Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) Framework** which would establish one law to address a wide range of products that end up in California landfills and have a significant impact on our environment and on local governments, which must manage waste.

California passed AB 939 in 1989, which established a waste management hierarchy that places waste reduction first. However, since that time, waste generation in California during good economic times has continued to climb. Local governments are mandated to solve this problem, but currently the “solutions” are at the back-end - disposal, rather than at the front end – product design and source reduction. The manufacturers of the products continue to have no responsibility for the end-of-life (EOL) management of the products they create and local governments remain powerless to affect design and waste reduction. The chart below demonstrates that even with great achievements in new recycling programs, it is not enough to reduce waste.

An EPR Framework provides producers the flexibility to customize individual product stewardship plans and implement the most cost-effective and business friendly approach for any particular product or product category. Furthermore, it encourages green design and reductions in disposal, toxic releases, and emissions of climate change gases in order to protect human health and our environment.

AB 283 will finally codify a shared responsibility approach and authorize industry to develop cooperative stewardship plans for the management of problem products. These plans would be submitted to the California Integrated Waste Management Board for review and to check for completeness of content, but the producers, *not* government, would design the collection system.



EPR is proven to create jobs, reduce GHG emissions, and stimulate the economy as documented in the economic study done for British Columbia in January 2009 at http://www.calpsc.org/policies/docs/2009/2009-01-07_BC-Product-Stewardship.pdf

PROBLEM

Since California enacted its groundbreaking **recycling legislation** (AB 939, 1989), we have created 22 new programs to regulate the EOL management of products. Rather than implementing separate laws to address environmental concerns for every individual product, AB 283 is a comprehensive **Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) Framework** which addresses a wide range of products that end up in California landfills and cause significant environmental problems. AB 283 provides a holistic approach to managing product waste but still allows flexibility for individual producers and industries to develop plans based on the uniqueness of each product.

BACKGROUND

The EPR Framework is a strategy to share responsibility among those who make, sell, use, and dispose of products, but places the primary responsibility on producers because they have the greatest ability to reduce their product's lifecycle impacts. In other words, all those who benefit from a product would share in the costs associated with the environmental impacts of the product. By having producers share in the costs of managing product discards, EPR harnesses the power of the free market to drive environmental improvement. EPR is a great economic stimulator as there are more jobs created for recycling than are utilized for landfilling.

SUPPORT

1. Alameda County StopWaste.org
2. American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees – AFL-CIO
3. Californians Against Waste
4. California Association of Environmental Health Administrators
5. California Conference of Environmental Health Directors
6. California League of Conservation Voters
7. California Resource Recovery Association
8. California Retailers Association (w/concerns)
9. California Product Stewardship Council
10. California Senior Legislature
11. California State Association of Counties
12. Central Contra Costa Sanitary District
13. Central Contra Costa Solid Waste Authority
14. City and County of San Francisco
15. City of Chula Vista
16. City of Cupertino
17. City of Fremont
18. City of Lathrop
19. City of Napa
20. City of Oakland
21. City of Santa Cruz
22. City of Stockton
23. City of Sunnyvale
24. City of Union City
25. City of Torrance
26. Clean Water Action
27. Coastkeeper
28. Contra Costa Clean Water Program
29. County of San Joaquin
30. County of Marin
31. County of Napa
32. County of Santa Barbara
33. County of Santa Clara
34. County of Solano
35. County of Sonoma
36. County of Tuolumne
37. Defenders of Wildlife
38. Del Norte Solid Waste Mgt. Authority
39. Environment California
40. Green Cities California
41. Green Shangha
42. Heal the Bay
43. Humboldt Waste Management Authority
44. League of California Cities
45. Longbeach Organic
46. Marin County Hazardous & Solid Waste Management Joint Powers Authority
47. Marin Sanitary Service
48. Mendocino Solid Waste Management Authority
49. Napa Recycling & Waste Services, LLC.
50. Natural Resources Defense Council

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| 51. Planning and Conservation League | 64. Surfrider Foundation West LA/Malibu Chapter |
| 52. Product Policy Institute | 65. Peninsula Packaging LLC |
| 53. Product Stewardship Institute | 66. Tamalpais Community Services District |
| 54. Regional Council of Rural Counties | 67. TDC Environmental |
| 55. Republic Services, Inc. | 68. Teleosis Institute |
| 56. San Diego Coastkeeper | 69. Warner Brothers Entertainment |
| 57. Santa Clara Valley Water District | 70. 7 th Generation Advisors |
| 58. Santa Cruz County | 71. PRO Europe – Packaging Recovery Organization |
| 59. Sierra Club California | 72. Austrian Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management |
| 60. Santa Monica Baykeeper | |
| 61. SLV Redemption/Recycling Centers | |
| 62. Solid Waste Association of North America | |
| 63. Sonoma County Waste Management Agency | |

OPPOSE

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| 1. Alliance of Automobile Manufacturers | 19. Family Winemakers of California |
| 2. American Chemistry Council | 20. Glass Packaging Institute |
| 3. American Forest and Paper Association | 21. Grocery Manufacturers Association |
| 4. AstraZeneca | 22. Industry Environmental Association |
| 5. BIOCOM | 23. Information Technology Industry Council |
| 6. California Chamber of Commerce | 24. Lassen Regional Solid Waste Management Authority |
| 7. California Council for Environmental and Economic Balance | 25. National Paint and Coatings Association |
| 8. California Film Extruders and Converters Association | 26. Merck and Co, Inc. |
| 9. California Grocers Association | 27. Pactiv Corporation |
| 10. California Grocery Manufacturers Association | 28. Personal Care Products Council |
| 11. California Healthcare Institute | 29. Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America |
| 12. California League of Food Processors | 30. Proctor & Gamble |
| 13. California Manufacturers & Technology Association | 31. Soap and Detergent Association |
| 14. California Paint Council | 32. Tech America |
| 15. Cal-Tax | 33. TechNet |
| 16. Chemical Industry Council of California | 34. Western Growers |
| 17. Consumer Specialty Products Association | 35. Western States Petroleum Association |
| 18. Dart Container Corporation | 36. Western Wood Preservers Institute |

ASSEMBLY APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE 5/28/09

Bill was held in the suspense file.

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