

DATE SUBMITTED 04/30/2025  
 SUBMITTED BY City Manager  
 DATE ACTION REQUIRED 5/7/25

Agenda Item No. \_\_\_\_\_

COUNCIL ACTION ☒  
 PUBLIC HEARING REQUIRED ☐  
 RESOLUTION ☐  
 ORDINANCE 1<sup>ST</sup> READING ☐  
 ORDINANCE 2<sup>ND</sup> READING ☐  
 CITY CLERK'S INITIALS ☐

## IMPERIAL CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM

SUBJECT: DISCUSSION/ACTION:  
 1. Authorize the Council to support AB 762 (Irwin and Wilson) and SB 45 (Padilla) by submitting electronic sign-on support letters.

DEPARTMENT INVOLVED:

BACKGROUND/SUMMARY:  
 AB 762 (Irwin and Wilson) - This bill seeks to ban the sale of single-use disposable vaporizer products in California. The purpose is to address environmental concerns related to the improper disposal of disposable vaping devices, which often contain hazardous materials, and to curb the proliferation of youth vaping.

SB 45 (Padilla) - This bill would require that specified plastic beverage containers (under 2 liters) have their bottle caps tethered to the bottle, preventing them from being discarded separately. This is intended to reduce litter and plastic waste, promoting more sustainable consumer products.

FISCAL IMPACT:  
None

FINANCE  
INITIALS

VMS

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

DEPT. INITIALS \_\_\_\_\_

MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION:

Approve

CITY  
MANAGER'S  
INITIALS

DTM

MOTION:

SECONDED:  
 AYES:  
 NAYES:  
 ABSENT:

APPROVED ☐  
 DISAPPROVED ☐

REJECTED ☐  
 DEFERRED ☐

REFERRED TO:

## AB 762 (Irwin and Wilson) Support Letter Sign-on - Disposable Vape Ban

Please fill out the following form if you'd like to be added to our coalition support letter for [AB 762](#) (Irwin and Wilson), a bill which would ban disposable vapes in the state.

A copy of the Coalition Support letter, including all registered signatories in support, can be found here: [Vapes Coalition Support Letter.docx](#)

**oliviamajorado@gmail.com** Switch account



The name, email, and photo associated with your Google account will be recorded when you upload files and submit this form

\* Indicates required question

Email \*

Your answer

Name of Signatory \*

Your answer



Request edit access



Affiliation \*

Your answer

Electronic Signature (.jpeg/.png preferred) \*

Upload 1 supported file. Max 10 MB.

 Add file

Signatory's Title \*

Your answer

Your Organization's Logo

Upload 1 supported file. Max 10 MB.

 Add file

Provide emails for any additional organizational contacts that you would like to keep in the loop (staff/lobbyists).

Your answer

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April 28, 2025

The Honorable Marc Berman, Chair  
Assembly Business and Professions  
1020 N Street, Room 379  
Sacramento, CA 95814

## RE: Support for AB 762 (Irwin and Wilson) – Ban on Disposable Vapes – COALITION SUPPORT

Dear Assemblymember Berman,

On behalf of the undersigned organizations, we write in strong support of AB 762 (Irwin and Wilson), which seeks to ban the sale of single-use disposable vaporizer products in California. This critical legislation addresses the alarming environmental, safety, and public health risks posed by these hazardous products, protecting our communities, waste infrastructure, and natural ecosystems from their destructive impact.

Single-use vapes contain embedded lithium-ion batteries, making them not only an unsustainable source of electronic waste but also a significant fire hazard. When improperly discarded—as is often the case—these devices ignite fires in garbage cans, collection trucks, and material recovery facilities (MRFs). These lithium-ion battery fires can reach temperatures of up to 1200°C—equivalent to a welding torch—causing rapid and uncontrollable blazes. The U.K. has already linked disposable vape waste to a staggering 77% increase in waste facility fires over the last year alone. California waste and recycling operators are facing a similar crisis, with escalating fire risks and increased costs in managing this hazardous waste.

Beyond safety concerns, single-use vapes contribute to an egregious waste of valuable resources. The lithium discarded in these devices annually could otherwise power over 2,600 electric vehicles, underscoring the reckless depletion of critical materials. Additionally, the mining and manufacturing of lithium and cobalt—key components of vape batteries—exacerbate environmental degradation and perpetuate environmental justice issues in vulnerable communities.

Disposable vapes are rapidly becoming a dominant form of electronic litter, contaminating highways, parks, and beaches. The Marine Conservation Society reports that these products are now routinely found along coastlines, where they pose an immediate threat to marine life. Unlike cigarette butts, which take up to ten years to degrade, single-use vapes introduce long-lasting toxic pollutants into ecosystems, including residual nicotine, lead, and mercury, which can leach into soil and waterways.

The vast majority of consumers—72%—are unaware that these devices cannot be disposed of in standard recycling or garbage streams. The absence of a standardized, effective collection and recycling process means that single-use vapes are, in reality, unmanageable toxic waste. The current status quo places the burden on local governments and waste management operators, forcing them to treat these hazardous materials at exorbitant costs.

Disposable vapes have driven a troubling surge in youth nicotine addiction. According to recent CDC data, 14.1% of high school students and 3.3% of middle school students report using e-cigarettes, with a staggering 57.2% of high school users and 45.8% of middle school users favoring disposable vape products. Over 84.8% of teen users report using flavored vapes, including fruit, candy, and menthol varieties, further entrenching nicotine dependence.

Emerging research reveals that disposable vapes expose users to heightened levels of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and toxic metals such as nickel, cadmium, mercury, and chromium—compounds linked to increased risks of cancer, cardiopulmonary disease, and neurological disorders. This growing body of evidence underscores the urgent need for intervention to protect public health, particularly among vulnerable youth populations.

California has long been a leader in environmental protection and consumer safety, and this bill aligns with global momentum to eliminate single-use disposable vapes. Countries including the U.K., France, Belgium, New Zealand, and Vietnam have already taken decisive action against these products, recognizing the irreversible harm they cause. California must act now to prevent further environmental degradation, public health crises, and economic burdens associated with their unregulated disposal.

For the sake of our environment, public health, and waste infrastructure, we urge you to support AB 762 and move it forward in the legislative process. We appreciate your leadership in tackling this urgent issue and stand ready to support efforts to pass this critical bill.

Sincerely,

#### **The Undersigned Organizations**



**Tony Hackett**  
Californians Against Waste



**Joanne Brasch**  
California Product Stewardship Council



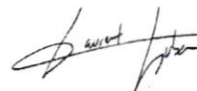
**Fiona Hines**  
California Public Interest Research  
Group



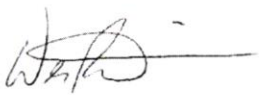
**Joe La Mariana**  
RethinkWaste



**Al Rich**  
ACR Solar



**Laurent Huber**  
Action on Smoking and Health



**Wes Reutimann**  
Active San Gabriel Valley



**Laura Anthony**  
Albatross Coalition



**Emily Wanous**  
Algalita Marine Research and Education



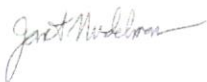
**Tomas Valadez**  
Azul



**Cheryl Auger**  
Ban Single-Use Plastic



**Tanya Payyappilly**  
Breathe California – Bay Area, Golden Gate, and Central Coast



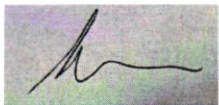
**Janet Nudelman**  
Breast Cancer Prevention Partners



**Vanessa Forsythe, RN, MSN**  
California Nurses for Environmental Health and Justice



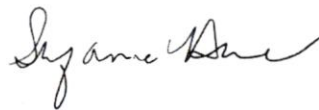
**Hector Olivares**  
Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Stockton – Environmental Justice Program



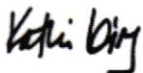
**Andrew Keller**  
Chico Bag



**Mayor David Newman**  
City of Thousand Oaks



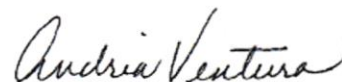
**Suzanne Hume**  
Clean Earth 4 Kids



**Kathi King**  
Community Environmental Council



**Irene Kao**  
Courage California



**Andria Ventura**  
Clean Water Action



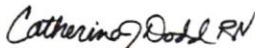
**Maya Rommwatt**  
Defend our Health



**Martin Bourque**  
Ecology Center



**Dan Silver**  
Endangered Habitats League



**Catherine Dodd, PhD, RN**  
Families Advocating for Chemical and Toxics Safety (FACTS)



**Jim Lindburg**  
Friends Committee on the Legislation of California



**Emily Parker**  
Heal the Bay



**Ivan Pislar**  
Ivan's Recycling



**Kelly Shannon McNeill**  
Los Angeles Waterkeeper



**Patty Garbarino**  
Marin Sanitary Service



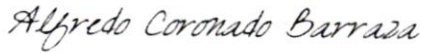
**Tim Dewey-Mattia**  
Napa Recycling and Waste Services



**Heidi Sanborn**  
National Stewardship Action Council (NSAC)



**Victoria Rome**  
Natural Resources Defense Council  
(NRDC)



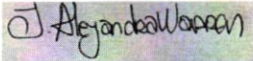
**Freddy Coronado**  
Northern California Recycling Association



**Wanda Redic**  
Oakland Public Works – Environmental Services  
Division



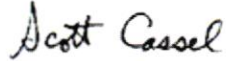
**Rebecca Aguilar**  
Oceanic Preservation Society



**Alejandra Warren**  
Plastic Free Future



**Dianna Cohen**  
Plastic Pollution Coalition



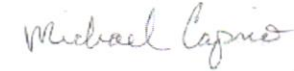
**Scott Cassel**  
Product Stewardship Institute



**Garen Kazanjian**  
Recology, Inc.



**Felipe Melchor**  
ReGen Monterey



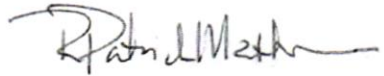
**Michael Caprio**  
Republic Services



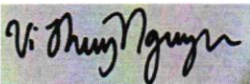
**Julie Wedge**  
ReThink Disposable



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Save our Shores



**David Lewis**  
Save the Bay



**Gabriela Facio**  
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**Ivan Pislár**  
Simply Recycle



**Jack Eidt**  
SoCal 350 Climate Action

**Curtis Larkin**

**Curtis Larkin**  
Solid Waste Association of North America  
(SWANA) Legislative Task Force



**Jackie Nuñez**  
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**Jennifer Savage**  
The Surfrider Foundation

**Alison Waliszewski**  
The 5 Gyres Institute

**Lauren Bright**  
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**Jason Toro**  
TRI-CED Community Recycling

**Kristin Kusanovich**  
tUrn Climate Crisis Awareness and Action

**Melissa Jung**  
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**Christine Wolfe**  
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**Jonathan Simpson**  
Little Kamper

**Sarah Zarate**  
City of San Jose

**David Kreuger**  
RecycleSmart

**Jennifer Finton**  
Breathe California – Sacramento Region

**Jacob Sandoval**  
CA League of United Latin American Citizens

**Serena Alvarez**  
The Salvador E. Alvarez Institute for Non-Violence

**Martha Camacho Rodriguez**  
Social Eco Education

**Judith Sorey**  
350 Bay Area Action



**Briget Arndell**  
City of Arcadia



**Hakim Rad**  
Bay Area Student Activists (BAsTA)



**Jan Sabriskie, Mayor**  
Town of Truckee



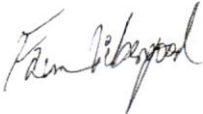
**Timothy Burroughs**  
StopWaste



**Alex Braicovich**  
CR&R Environmental Services, Inc.




**Dave Sikich**  
Atlas Disposal



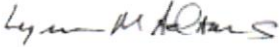
**Fawn Liebgood**  
Blue Ocean Warriors



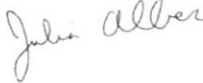
**Sam Pearce**  
The Story of Stuff Project



**Sarah Bridge**  
Association of California Healthcare Districts



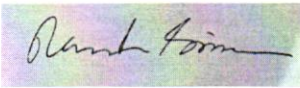
**Lynn Adams**  
Pacific Beach Coalitions



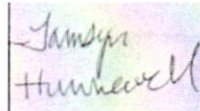
**Julia Alber**  
San Luis Obispo County Tobacco Control Coalition



**Jeffery Tillman**  
South Tahoe Refuse & Recycling Services



**Ramesh Srinivasan**  
Eco-Catalyst



**Tamsyn Hunnewell**  
Sustainable Works



**Gene Della Zoppa**  
Mill Valley Refuse Service



**Caitlin Adler**  
Project Ropa

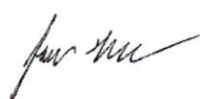


**Tak Sato**  
Stiiizy

**Emily Barnett**  
Central Contra Costa Sanitary District



**Scott Scholz**  
Western Placer Waste Management Authority



**James Moore**  
Merced County Regional Waste Management Authority

**cc: Members, Assembly Business and Professions Committee**  
**Authors, Asm. Irwin and Asm. Wilson**

## SB 45 (Padilla) Tethered Caps - Support Letter Sign-on

Please fill out the following form if you'd like to be added to our coalition support letter for SB 45 (Padilla), a bill which would require that plastic beverage containers up to 2L in size have a cap that remains attached during the product's intended use cycle.

Find the Fact Sheet here: [SB 45 - Fact Sheet](#)

Find the letter here: [SB 45 - Coalition Support Letter - EQ.docx](#)

**oliviamajorado@gmail.com** Switch account



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Name of Signatory \*

Your answer



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Organization \*

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Signatory's Title \*

Your answer

Electronic Signature (.jpeg/.png preferred) \*

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SACRAMENTO, CA 95814  
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FAX (916) 651-4918

CHULA VISTA DISTRICT OFFICE  
780 BAY BOULEVARD, SUITE 204  
CHULA VISTA, CA 91910  
TEL (619) 409-7690

EL CENTRO DISTRICT OFFICE  
1224 STATE STREET, SUITE D  
EL CENTRO, CA 92243  
TEL (760) 335-3442

INDIO DISTRICT OFFICE  
82013 DR CARREON BOULEVARD, SUITE L  
EL CENTRO, CA 92243  
TEL (760) 398-6442

WWW.SENATE.CA.GOV/PADILLA  
SENATOR.PADILLA@SENATE.CA.GOV

## California State Senate

SENATOR  
STEPHEN C. PADILLA  
EIGHTEENTH SENATE DISTRICT



COMMITTEES

BUDGET SUBCOMMITTEE #4 ON  
STATE ADMINISTRATION AND  
GENERAL GOVERNMENT  
CHAIR

MEMBER

AGRICULTURE

BUDGET

GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION

HOUSING

NATURAL RESOURCES AND WATER

REVENUE & TAXATION

## SB 45 (Padilla and Blakespear) - Tethered Bottle Caps – Fact Sheet

### SUMMARY

More than 16,600 tons of plastic bottle caps are littered or landfilled in California annually. SB 45 is aimed at cutting plastic bottle cap litter in half and doubling the current plastic bottle cap recycling rate.

SB 45 will require that specified plastic beverage containers (soft drinks and water) under 2 liters have bottle caps tethered to the container to remain attached from consumer use to eventual recycling. Tethered caps would significantly reduce litter, enhance recyclability and material circularity, and protect both terrestrial and marine wildlife from the dangers of ingestion, toxic buildup, and microplastic leaching.

Of the nearly 15 billion plastic beverage containers generated in California last year, roughly 70% were returned for recycling, and the majority of those were ultimately recycled. That is not the case with plastic bottle caps. Reports suggest only 43% of plastic bottle caps even get collected. And because of their small size roughly half of those wind up as residual and discards at Material Recovery Facilities and Reclaimers.

By ensuring that caps remain affixed to bottles during their lifecycle and material processing, SB 45 can cut plastic bottle cap litter in half and double bottle cap recycling rates, preventing pollution and improving material recovery efforts.

### BACKGROUND

Plastic bottle caps rank among the most ubiquitous and yet most preventable sources of deadly plastic pollution in California. Beach clean-up data and ocean debris waste characterizations have continuously ranked caps in the top five most littered items since 1988, with more than 20 million bottle caps having been discovered during beach cleanups over the last 30 years. Plastic bottle caps never fully biodegrade, instead shedding microplastics and leaching toxic chemicals that contaminate our water, soil, air, and bodies.

When detached, these brightly colored caps are frequently mistaken for food by wildlife, leading to fatal choking hazards and the bioaccumulation of toxins that imperil species ranging from sea turtles to whales.

Due to their bright colors, caps are often attractive to wildlife and mistaken for food, posing a fatal choking hazard, as well as long-term bio-accumulation of hazardous toxins and starvation due to the cap's indigestibility. Plastic caps have also been known to cause 'Bubble

Butt' syndrome in sea turtles, plasticosis among fish and other marine life, and fatal indigestion in whale species.

Even when detachable bottle caps are disposed of correctly, their size and shape render them nearly impossible to recycle. Because they are too small to be handled by material recovery facility (MRF) machinery and baling equipment, they often end up in MRF residuals, which are sent to landfills for disposal. When caps remain attached to the beverage container, they are captured and baled with the container, preventing unnecessary residuals and material loss.

Past state legislation on this issue includes AB 925 (Saldana, 2009), AB 319 (Stone, 2018), and AB 2779 (Stone, 2018), which were ultimately unsuccessful but elicited a massive outpouring of public support to improve caps' material recovery and mitigate their effects on marine ecosystems and wildlife.

SB 45 tracks identical policy adopted by the European Union (EU) in 2018, and enacted across Europe by July 2024. With the regulation now in effect, manufacturers and consumers alike have adapted in response. Public opinion in the EU conducted by YouGov has found that the majority of EU consumers are supportive or strongly supportive of the tethered cap mandate. Coca-Cola has also lightweighted their tethered closure so well, it's impressively 20% lighter than the *untethered* version.

Several major beverage brands and manufacturers have already rolled out tethered closure technologies stateside and abroad, including Crystal Geyser, Coca-Cola, PepsiCo, Blue Triton (Arrowhead), Keurig-Dr. Pepper, and Nestlé.

### THIS BILL

SB 45 would:

- Require specified plastic beverage containers of up to 2 liters to have an attached bottle cap by 2027;
- Allow plastic beverage containers made of resin types with a recycling rate greater than 70 percent in 2022 and 2023 to comply with the tethered cap requirement by 2028;
- Exempt beverage manufacturers who sell less than 16 million units annually from complying with this requirement

Tethering bottle caps to the bottle will reduce litter, minimize threats to marine wildlife, enhance material recovery efforts and loss reduction.

## Staff Contact

---

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Title: Legislative Aide  
Email: Emily.Zhou@sen.ca.gov  
Capitol Office: (916) 651 – 4018

## Support

---

Californians Against Waste (**Sponsor**)  
350 Sacramento  
350 Bay Area Action  
Active San Gabriel Valley  
Alameda County Waste Management Authority (DBA StopWaste)  
Algalita Marine Research and Education  
Alliance of Mission-Based Recyclers (AMBR)  
Atrium 916  
Azul  
Ban Single-Use Plastics  
Blue Ocean Warriors  
California Environmental Voters  
California Nurses for Environmental Health & Justice  
California Product Stewardship Council  
California School Nurses Association  
Capital City Recycling  
Center for Environmental Health  
Central Contra Costa Solid Waste Authority (DBA RecycleSmart)  
Chico Bag  
City of Sunnyvale  
Climate Action Campaign  
Clean Water Action  
Community Environmental Council  
Courage California  
CR&R Environmental Services  
Defend our Health  
Defenders of Wildlife  
Ecology Center  
Endangered Habitats League  
Environmental Action Coalition of West Marin  
Families Advocating for Chemical and Toxics Safety (FACTS)  
Friends Committee on Legislation of California  
Heal the Bay  
Ivan's Recycling  
League to Save Lake Tahoe  
Marin County Hazardous and Solid Waste Management Authority (DBA Zero Waste Marin)  
Marin Sanitary Service  
Ming's Recycling  
Monterey Regional Waste Management District (DBA ReGen Monterey)  
Napa Recycling & Waste Services  
National Stewardship Action Council (NSAC)  
Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC)  
Nature for All  
Northern California Recycling Association (NCRA)  
Oakland Public Works - Environmental Services Division (DBA Oakland Recycles)  
Ocean Conservation Society  
Oceanic Preservation Society  
Pacific Beach Coalition

Pacific Environment  
Planning and Conservation League  
Plastic Free Future  
Plastic Pollution Coalition  
Product Stewardship Institute  
Recology, Inc.  
Republic Services  
Resource Recovery Coalition of California  
Resource Renewal Institute  
ReThink Disposable  
Sacramento Splash  
Salinas Valley Solid Waste Authority  
San Francisco Baykeeper  
San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments  
Santa Cruz Climate Action Network  
Save Our Shores  
Save the Albatross Coalition  
Save the Bay  
Seventh Generation Advisors  
Sierra Club California  
Simply Recycle  
SoCal 350 Climate Action  
Social Compassion in Legislation  
Social Eco Education  
Solid Waste Association of North America, Legislative Task Force (SWANA)  
South Bayside Regional Waste Management Authority (DBA RethinkWaste)  
Stop the Caps  
Sustainable Mill Valley  
The 5 Gyres Institute  
The Last Plastic Straw  
The Story of Stuff Project  
The Surfrider Foundation  
TRI-CED Community Recycling  
tUm Climate Action  
Upstream  
U.S. Green Building Council California  
Voices for Progress  
Waste Connections  
WeTap  
Wilmington Recyclers  
Zero Waste San Diego  
Zero Waste Sonoma Joint Powers Authority  
Zero Waste USA