



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

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California State Legislature
1021 O Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: SB 1053 (Blakespear) Solid waste: reusable grocery bags: standards: plastic film prohibition – SUPPORT

We are writing to express our strong support for SB 1053, which addresses critical issues related to solid waste management, specifically concerning reusable grocery bags and the prohibition of plastic film. This legislation represents a crucial step towards reducing plastic pollution and promoting sustainable practices in our communities.

This legislation is vital for enhancing environmental sustainability and protecting human health. SB 1053 is particularly commendable as it eliminates the exemption of thicker plastic bags from the state's single-use bag ban. By doing so, it reinforces the commitment made by Californian voters through Proposition 67 passed in 2016 to phase out plastic bags, which have a devastating impact on our environment. Once plastic enters the environment, it persists for hundreds if not thousands of years, posing serious threats not only to humans but to wildlife and ecosystems.

Humboldt County's economy relies heavily on the natural beauty and wildlife that attracts tourist and sustain local businesses. Plastic bag pollution not only tarnishes our scenic landscapes and beaches, but also endangers the diverse wildlife that inhabits our region. The presence of plastic waste can deter tourists and negatively impact the recreational and commercial activities that are central to the local economy. By reducing plastic pollution, we protect the integrity of our environment and ensures that Humboldt County remains a desirable destination for visitors.

Moreover, SB 1053 specifies clear requirements for reusable bags and paper bags to ensure they meet safety standards for distribution in stores. By stipulating that only paper bags are permitted to be sold at point of sale, the bill promotes a shift towards more sustainable alternatives that reduce plastic pollution.

The County of Humboldt urges you to support SB 1053 and advocates for its passage. By advancing this legislation, we can further protect our environment, improve public health, and uphold California's commitment to sustainable practices.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Rex Bohn, Chair

Board of Supervisors
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