

Let me say this: it's a start. I listen into these hearings and hear over and over how industry doesn't want to be responsible and pay for the literal garbage that they are passing on to consumers. While I still feel it is important to move forward with SB 582, I am deeply disheartened by all the many concessions made to industry with the -9 amendment and yet no such effort seems to be made on behalf of the environment and to address the plastic pollution crisis. Why aren't we hearing about an ENVIRONMENTAL AMENDMENT to this bill? Businesses and industry always do a fine job of representing themselves and their interests. I encourage you to listen to the voices speaking on behalf of our Earth and our environment which are in crisis as well. Seabirds choking on plastic debris or suffocating in the elastic strap of a COVID mask ear loop unfortunately can't testify to the legislature. Thank you for moving this forward and for your leadership thus far. Keep going and make sure you aren't just adding more seats to the table for industry. Don't be afraid to push to move quickly--the crisis we are in requires bold action.

Kirsten Lee