

Submitter: Linda Werner
On Behalf Of: The Plastic Project
Committee: Senate Committee On Energy and Environment
Measure: SB544

Directs Environmental Quality Commission to establish program for source reduction of single-use plastic food ware and single-use packaging and achieve 25 percent source reductions compared to 2023 levels by 2030.

It's important to understand that most plastic items cannot be recycled. The so-called 'recycling' symbol on the bottom does not mean that the item can be recycled. It is a plastics industry code for the type and formula of resin used to produce the item. Unfortunately, the general public has been led to believe the symbol means these items can be recycled, and therefore they purchase these plastic wrapped or packaged items in good faith they can be recycled. This then adds to the increased production of toxic plastic containers and packaging, leading to the disposal or incineration of more than 90 percent of all plastic produced. Source reduction is imperative to reducing the use of these toxic items and eliminate the amount entering the environmental stream and affecting the health of consumers.