



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

OCT 08 2023

To the Members of the California State Senate:

I am returning Senate Bill 665 without my signature.

This bill would require the California Environmental Protection Agency to establish a working group of state entities to develop a policy framework by July 1, 2026, for evaluating plastic alternatives in order to inform policy decisions designed to create a more sustainable and circular economy.

I thank the author for the commitment to reduce plastic pollution and support California's transition to a circular economy. However, the creation of a new working group is unnecessary and duplicative of existing efforts within my Administration.

Last year, I signed the Plastic Pollution Prevention and Packaging Producer Responsibility Act (SB 54, Chapter 75, Statutes of 2022), which established a comprehensive regulatory framework and aggressive goals to reduce single-use plastic in this state. To implement this framework and meet its statutory requirements, the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery is in the process of conducting needs assessments, source reduction studies, end market studies, industry surveys, and waste characterization studies. This work, coupled with other Administration efforts, will provide insight for the same policy objectives this bill seeks to achieve.



For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Gavin Newsom', written over the printed name. The signature is stylized and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Gavin Newsom