

# California Legislature

June 20, 2022

The Honorable Ben Allen  
California State Senate  
State Capitol Building  
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Bob Hertzberg, Senate Majority Leader Emeritus  
California State Senate  
State Capitol Building  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Senators Allen and Hertzberg,

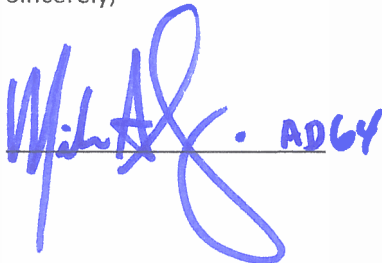
We the undersigned are writing to you today to express our strong concerns regarding the most recent amendments made to Senate Bill 54 which include paper as a covered material under the bill's provisions.

More paper by weight is recycled from municipal waste streams every year than all other packaging materials combined. For over a decade, the paper industry has achieved a consistently high recycling rate, nationally meeting, or exceeding, 63% each year since 2009. In 2021, the paper recycling rate climbed to 68% for all paper types, with cardboard boxes being recycled at an exceptional rate of 91.4%. This is a clear reflection of the already successful end-market recycling efforts used in the paper industry. The other extended producer responsibility concepts in SB 54 may be appropriate for other materials, but the Legislature should study how SB 54 will impact paper's existing recycling success before implementing any new additional regulatory burdens.

We also wish to register our strong concerns with how SB 54's source reduction provisions would directly impact jobs in the paper industry. California's paper industry supports thousands of union jobs in our districts, and we will urge the Legislature to consider the potential impacts SB 54 will have on the industry's workforce. We are also concerned about the downstream impacts source reduction mandates will have on California's printing industry and its workforce, which are already facing severe supply chain challenges and economic headwinds.

We acknowledge that SB 54 continues to be a work in progress with many issues yet to be resolved. However, as a part of those considerations, we request that you amend SB 54 to remove paper products entirely from the bill.

Sincerely,

 AD64

 AD13

Sharon Quirk-Silva AD65

Patrick O'Sullivan 70

J. \_\_\_\_\_ AD61

Jim Lopez AD9

Jaymes AD52

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ AD40

R. S. \_\_\_\_\_ AD32

C. Peter-Mond AD74

Tom Daly  
AD69

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_