[Urging the California State Legislature to Approve California State Assembly Bill No. 2026 (Friedman) - Reducing Single-Use Plastic Packaging]

Resolution urging the California State Legislature to approve California State Assembly Bill No. 2026, authored by Assembly Member Laura Friedman, which would prohibit single-use plastic packaging for online retailers.

WHEREAS, California has one of the highest recycling rates in the country, but according to CalRecycle, our state dumps more than 12,000 tons of plastic into landfills every day; and

WHEREAS, Globally, the e-commerce industry used nearly 2.9 billion pounds of plastic packaging in 2020, and that amount is estimated to more than double by 2026; and

WHEREAS, In a report from Oceana, the group estimates that in 2020, Amazon alone generated 599 million pounds of packaging worldwide, a 29% increase from 2019; and

WHEREAS, Plastic is a significant source of global greenhouse gas emissions that contribute to climate change and ocean acidification; and

WHEREAS, Local governments in California spend more than $420,000,000 annually in efforts to clean up and prevent plastic and other litter from entering oceans and waterways, which is paid for by taxpayers; and

WHEREAS, Plastic films including mailers, bubble wrap, and inflatable air pillows are rarely recycled in California due to the plastic having little residual value; and

WHEREAS, Less than nine percent of all plastic waste created in the United States has been recycled, meaning we cannot recycle our way out of our plastic problem; and

WHEREAS, Plastic bags and film can clog machinery at recycling centers and endangers workers who have to cut the bags off the equipment; and
WHEREAS, The production and distribution associated with plastic has significant
environmental impacts including environmental contamination due to the plastic breaking
down over time into microplastics, which make their way into our water systems; and
WHEREAS, According to a waste audit from Recology, annually San Francisco collects
more than 15,000 tons of single-use plastic in our city’s waste stream; and
WHEREAS, San Francisco’s Climate Action Plan outlines goals to reduce its
generation of discards by 15% and the disposal of discards to landfill and incineration by 50%,
with strategies including implementing policies to extend producer responsibility to reduce and
recover packaging; and
WHEREAS, Assembly Member Laura Friedman authored Assembly Bill No. 2026
which will phase out the use of plastic film in e-commerce packaging, phases out plastic
cushioning in or into the state of California, and extends the requirement that establishments
that provide carry out plastic bags to customers must provide a collection bin for collecting
and recycling the bags; and
WHEREAS, Assembly Bill No. 2026 will require e-commerce and businesses to shift to
alternatives to single-use plastic film and expanded polystyrene packaging, which are
currently available and already being used to ship products; now, therefore, be it
RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco
urges the California State Legislature to approve Assembly Bill No. 2026; and, be it
FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors urges Governor Gavin Newsom
to sign Assembly Bill No. 2026 when it arrives at his desk; and
FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors hereby directs the Clerk of the
Board to transmit a copy of this Resolution to the California State Assembly and the California
State Senate, as well as the Bill’s primary sponsor and the Governor.
Resolution urging the California State Legislature to approve California State Assembly Bill No. 2026, authored by Assembly Member Laura Friedman, which would prohibit single-use plastic packaging for online retailers.

April 12, 2022 Board of Supervisors - ADOPTED
   Ayes: 10 - Chan, Haney, Mandelman, Mar, Melgar, Peskin, Preston, Ronen, Safai and Walton
   Excused: 1 - Stefani

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on 4/12/2022 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution, not being signed by the Mayor within the time limit as set forth in Section 3.103 of the Charter, or time waived pursuant to Board Rule 2.14.2, became effective without her approval in accordance with the provision of said Section 3.103 of the Charter or Board Rule 2.14.2.

Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board

04/22/2022

Date Approved

5/5/2022

Date