



Innovative Products For **Home. Work. Life.**



Please OPPOSE SB 5022

SB 5022 is an overly complex and expensive response to plastic waste

The mandates in SB 5022 present major challenges for producers that have implications for consumer health and safety, while the costs for compliance are beyond what is reasonably necessary.

As an industry we have made serious efforts and commitments to reduce plastics in our environment, and contribute to the movement on a policy level. We share the goals of the author to reduce the amount of plastics introduced into the environment but SB 5022 is not the answer.

The annual tax is undefined and sets a bad precedent. SB 5022 would give the Department of Ecology largely unrestrained authority to levy an annual tax on producers to cover the traditional functions of the department. The annual cost imposed on producers in the bill establishes a precedent whereby any new mandate or regulation is subsidized by the regulated entity. The annual cost to producers is on top of already steep penalties, audits, investigations, and reporting.

The pandemic is not the time for this bill. Introducing such an impactful proposal like SB 5022 during a global pandemic is challenging enough for any sector, but specifically targeting products critical to keeping homes, schools, and hospitals clean and safe is cause for concern.

The bill does not fully consider consumer safety. Many household cleaning and personal care products can't use higher levels of PCR due to consumer safety standards for packaging (such as child resistant packaging). Federal restrictions or technical feasibility impacting the ability to manufacture safe and secure packaging should not be discretionary.

Registration process is onerous and increases compliance costs. Unlike similar programs, SB 5022 is unnecessarily complex. The amount of time and resources dedicated to collecting, preparing, and reporting the very specific data outlined in the bill will be significant for any manufacturer.

Process lacks stakeholder input. The last-minute amendments to SB 5022 are not the product of a proposal that has input from the broader household cleaning and personal care producers. Product packaging, material makeup, and supply chains are incredibly complex, and crafting regulations for very specific industries without consideration for how they impact the health and safety of consumers will lead to serious negative consequences.

Please join us in opposing SB 5022.