



**NATIONAL
STEWARDSHIP
ACTION COUNCIL**
ADVOCATING FOR A CIRCULAR ECONOMY

Plastics and the Circular Economy: What's Up & What's Next

May 20, 2021

NSAC'S VISION: The United States attains a circular economy.

Who is NSAC?



NATIONAL
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ADVOCATING FOR A CIRCULAR ECONOMY

The National Stewardship Action Council (NSAC) is a 501(c)4 non-profit organization. NSAC is a network of committed proponents comprised of governments, non-government organizations, businesses, and consumers who advocate that producers fairly share responsibility in a circular economy.

Vision: The United States attains a circular economy.

Mission: Collaborate with public and private stakeholders to advance product stewardship and extended producer responsibility.



2017 NSAC Strategic Planning Meeting



What is a Circular Economy?

Multi-faceted with a focus on producers embracing sustainable design, using regenerative materials and collecting end of life products and materials for continuous use in the economy.

It is based on three principles:

1. Design out waste and pollution
2. Keep products and materials in use
3. Regenerate natural systems



**ELLEN
MACARTHUR
FOUNDATION**



Circularity Includes Everyone! Catalyzing Environmental Justice

In Solidarity

FIGHTING FOR
CLIMATE AND ENERGY JUSTICE
INCLUDES FIGHTING FOR
RACIAL JUSTICE



NSAC Board/Organization

12 Board Members, 5 women, 5 BIPOC



David Stitzhal
President
Full Circle
Environmental



Patty Garbarino
Treasurer
Marin Sanitary
Service



Tim Goncharoff
Vice-President
County of Santa Cruz



Michael Simpson
City of Los
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Rubi Rajbanshi
Terrascope Consulting



Constance Hornig
Secretary
Constance Hornig Law Offices



Maia Corbitt,
Garver, Black, Hilyard
Family Foundation



Chris Ripley
Smarter Sorting



Bob Gedert
Consultant



Beverly Hanstrom
CEO Colorado
Medical Waste



Eric Zetz
Merced Regional
Waste Mgmt
Authority



Nicholas Oliver
State of California Dept of
Consumer Affairs



2021 Legislative Landscape on Plastics

- Consumer contempt
- Environmental injustices
- Producer responsibility
- Chemical caution
- Coordination amongst legislators, legislative staff, and stakeholders... but also amongst the opposition





Webinar on Plastics Legislation



ANJA MALAWI
BRANDON, PHD
AGU/AAAS
CONGRESSIONAL
SCIENCE FELLOW

OFFICE OF
SENATOR JEFF
MERKLEY



JESSICA GAUGER,
DIRECTOR OF
LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY
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CALIFORNIA
ASSOCIATION
OF SANITATION
AGENCIES



ERIC NELSON,
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CIRCONOMEY
INNOVATIONS



MAIA CORBITT,
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MISSION GIVING

GARVER,
BLACK,
HILYARD
FAMILY
FOUNDATION



HEIDI SANBORN,
EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR

NATIONAL
STEWARDSHIP
ACTION
COUNCIL



Plastics/Packaging Legislation

1. California
2. Hawaii
3. Maine
4. Maryland
5. Massachusetts
6. New York
7. Oregon
8. Texas
9. Vermont
10. Washington



www.nsaction.us/legislation





California's Statewide Commission on Recycling Markets & Curbside Recycling Releases First Report & Policy Proposals

<https://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/markets/commission>



Basel Convention Ratification – AJR 1

**CALIFORNIA
LEGISLATORS &
BROAD COALITION
CALL FOR BIDEN
ADMINISTRATION TO
RATIFY BASEL
CONVENTION WITHIN
FIRST 100-DAYS**

READ THE PRESS RELEASE



CA Lawmakers Propose Package of New Laws Tackling Plastic Waste Reduction



Tuesday, March 9, 2021



N E W S R E L E A S E

*CA Lawmakers Propose Package of
New Laws Tackling Plastic Waste Reduction*



SB 343 (Allen): Truth in Recyclable Labeling

- Co-sponsored by NSAC & Californians Against Waste
- Prohibits the use of the chasing arrows symbol if the material is not actually recycled in CA
- Chasing arrows currently used with Resin Identification Code (RIC) – required by 29 states (industry pushed)
- 2013: RIC changed from arrows to solid triangle
- Goes beyond the FTC Green Guides
- Reduce consumer confusion and contamination in the system



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fiu9GSOmt8E>
6:11 – start of chasing arrows discussion

AB 478 (Ting-D San Francisco) Thermoforms PCRC 30% by 2030



42376.

(a) Thermoform plastic containers offered for sale, sold, distributed, or imported in or into the state by a producer shall meet the following:

(1) **January 1, 2024, until December 31, 2026, inclusive**, the total thermoform plastic containers sold by a producer in the state shall, on average, contain no less than **10 percent postconsumer recycled** plastic per year.

(2) **January 1, 2027, until December 31, 2029, inclusive**, the total thermoform plastic containers sold by a producer in the state shall, on average, contain no less than **20 percent postconsumer recycled** plastic per year.

(3) **January 1, 2030**, the total thermoform plastic containers sold by a producer in the state shall, on average, contain **no less than 30 percent postconsumer recycled** plastic per year.

(b) (1) **Beginning January 1, 2024**, a producer that does not meet the minimum postconsumer recycled plastic requirements pursuant to subdivision (a) is subject to an **annual administrative penalty pursuant to this subdivision**.

CA 2021 Bills Based on Commission Recommendations

- **AB 661 (Bennett)**: Updates the State Agency Buy Recycled Campaign (SABRC)
- **AB 881 (L. Gonzalez)**: Reclassifies the export of **mixed plastic** waste as disposal
- **AB 962 (Kamlager)**: Allows returnable (“refillable”) bottles in the Bottle Bill program - rather than being crushed, they can be washed and refilled
- **AB 1200 (Ting)**: Ensures compostable products meet existing design standards used by a significant portion of the compostable packaging industry; meet the California Department of Food and Agriculture’s existing standards for organic certification; prohibit the use of PFAS in compostable products; and are certified by a qualified third-party certification entity that can evaluate material health and toxicity concerns at the source.
- **AB 1201 (Ting)**: Prohibits PFAS in paper-based food packaging, require disclosure of toxic chemicals in cookware, and stops manufacturers of cookware from making misleading marketing claims
- **AB 1371 (Friedman)**: Requires a **shift to non-plastic packaging for e-commerce** that is recyclable, compostable, or reusable and accepted in curbside bins



CA 2021 Bills Continued

- Bottle Bill “Fixes”:

1. SB 38 (Wieckowski)
2. SB 451 (Dodd)
3. AB 1311 (Wood)
4. AB 1454 (Bloom, O’Donnell)

Critics say California’s bottle bill is failing consumers; as redemption rates drop, recycling centers close

Fewer redemption locations mean less money returned to customers, more recyclables in landfills.

June 3, 2020

California’s Plastic Bottle Redemption System Is in Crisis

Words by Nithin Coca

MAY 28, 2020

Groups call for California bottle bill revamp

Golden State’s beverage container recycling model badly needs to be updated, say advocacy groups and hired consultant.

May 15, 2020

- EPR:

1. SB 54 (Allen)
2. AB 842 (C. Garcia)

Expansive EPR proposal is back in play in California

Published: March 17, 2021

Updated: [March 17, 2021](#)

by [Colin Staub](#)



May Budget Revision Proposal

Must pass by June 15th

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1PqL1c0MrWw8jh-cHnba3liRJHYhuN46X>



- CA Budget Surplus - \$130M One-Time Money to support the development of infrastructure to drive the Circular Economy!
- \$15 M Recycling Technology Feasibility Grants
- \$55M to Provide low – interest loans to attract recycling and reuse businesses to CA
- Creates office of Innovation in Market Development and Remanufacturing in CalRecycle to identify and foster new technologies (result of 2 commission reco's)



Pharmaceutical & Wipes Legislation

Pharmaceuticals

1. Illinois



Wipes

1. California
2. Illinois
3. Massachusetts
4. Minnesota
5. Oregon
6. New York



Batteries & Solar Panel Legislation

Batteries

1. California

Solar Panels

1. New York
2. Rhode Island



Tobacco & Right to Repair Legislation

Right to Repair

1. California (medical devices)
2. Colorado

Tobacco

1. New York



Looming Challenges

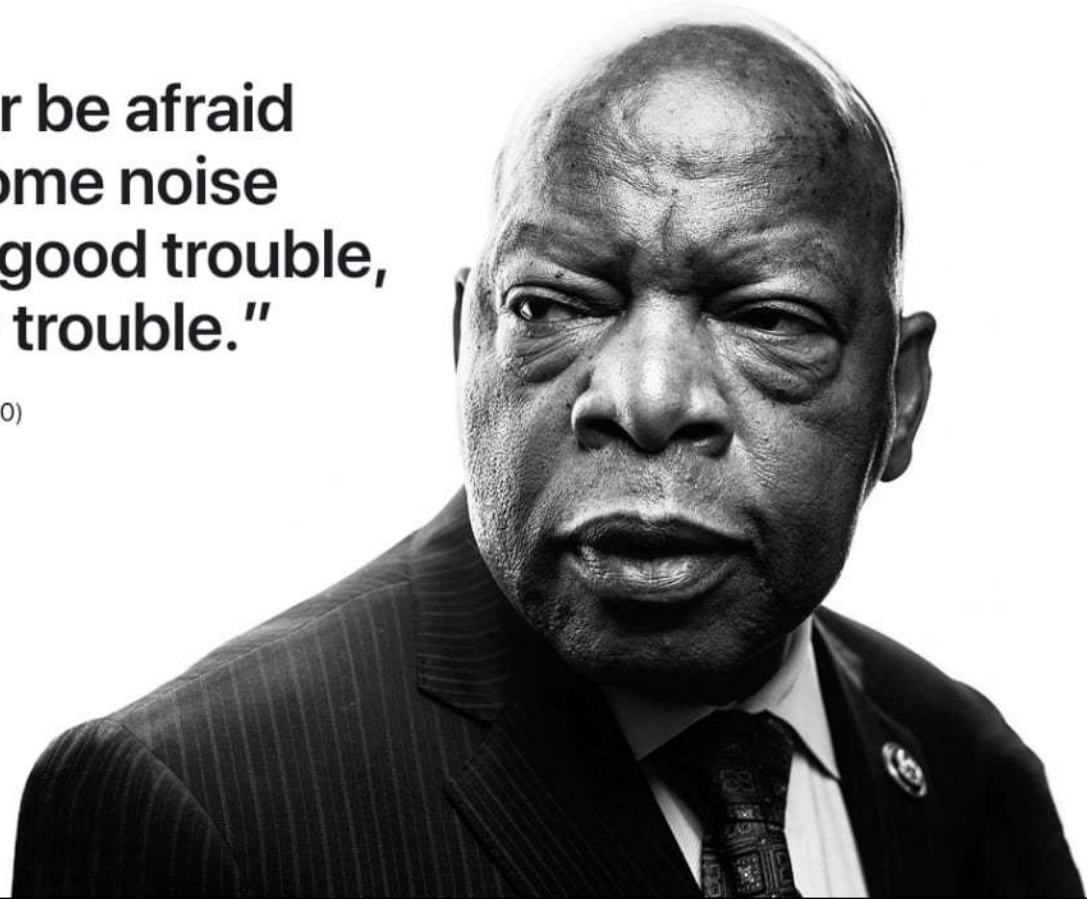
1. Cannabis
2. Vaping/tobacco products
3. 1 lb. Propane Cylinders



Getting into “Good Trouble”

**“Never, ever be afraid
to make some noise
and get in good trouble,
necessary trouble.”**

Rep. John Lewis (1940-2020)



LET'S GET TO:WORK

1. Model behavior
2. Get educated and educate others
3. Collect data to tell your story
4. Convene stakeholders & find allies
5. Find political champions! Or become one!
6. Write op-eds & articles
7. Pursue local, state, and/or federal action
8. Send letters of support/opposition, testify, stay engaged – **be at the table, not on the menu!**
9. Partner with NSAC and others





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YouTube