

Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery

SB 54 Plastic Pollution Prevention and Packaging Producer Responsibility Act Regulations

Updated Informative Digest

There have been no changes in applicable laws or to the effect of the proposed regulations from the laws and effects described in the Notice of Proposed Action.

While the informative digest provided in the Notice of Proposed Action published on August 22, 2025 still provides an accurate description of the effect of these regulations, several substantial changes were made to the proposed regulations that were noticed to the public for a 15-day comment period that began on January 29, 2026 and concluded on February 13, 2026. The following provides a general description of the substantial changes made to the proposed action after publication of the Notice of Proposed Action on August 22, 2025.

SECTION 18980.2. Categorically Excluded Materials

These regulations were changed to provide additional clarity regarding the contents notices of entities' determinations that packaging or packaging components are not covered material. The regulations also more clearly describe the effects of the notices and provide details regarding CalRecycle's review of the notices.

SECTION 18980.3.1. Recyclability of Certain Covered Material Categories Identified by the Department

These regulations were changed to specify that the public comment period for submission of comments regarding CalRecycle's preliminary identification of a covered material category is 30 days.

SECTION 18980.6.1. Producer Responsibility Plan Submission

Two changes were made to these regulations. First, the revisions shift the date by which a Producer Responsibility Organization (PRO) must submit a producer responsibility plan to the advisory board and public and clarify the manner for doing so. Second, the revisions establish a 60-day period for the public and the advisory board to submit comments to the PRO.

SECTION 18980.6.3. Review of Updated Producer Responsibility Plan

These regulations were changed to clarify that when a PRO submits an updated plan to the advisory board, it must also make the updated plan available to the public. Further,

these regulations would establish a 60-day period for the public and the advisory board to submit comments to the PRO.

SECTION 18980.7. Independent Producer Plan Submission

Two changes were made to these regulations. First, the revisions clarify the manner by which an Independent Producer must submit a producer responsibility plan to the advisory board and the public. Second, the revisions establish a 60-day period for the public and the advisory board to submit comments to the Independent Producer.

SECTION 18980.7.2. Review of Updated Independent Producer Plan

These regulations were changed to clarify that when an Independent Producer submits an updated plan to the advisory board, it must also make the updated plan available to the public. Further, these regulations would establish a 60-day period for the public and the advisory board to submit comments to the Independent Producer.

VARIOUS PROVISIONS: 18980.2.3(b) and (g)(1); 18980.2.4(c) and (h)(1); 18980.2.5(f)(2); 18980.2.6(b); 18980.5.1(a); 18980.5.2(a); 18980.6.6(a)(1); 18980.7.5(a)(1); 18980.8.2(b)(7); 18980.9(a); 18980.10(a); 18980.10.1(c)(2); 18980.11.1(c) and (h)(2)(C); 18981(c)

These regulations were changed to enhance clarity regarding the various electronic submissions required under the proposed regulations: applications, certifications, information, recommendations, documents, notifications, reports, letters, and requests.