

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2025-2026 SIMULATION SESSION

SENATE BILL

NO. 74

Introduced by Senator Monique Limon

Sep 28, 2025

An act to add Section 42290 to the Public Resources Code, relating to single-use consumer products.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 74, as introduced, Limon. Zero-Waste Consumer Products Act.

Existing law prohibits or restricts certain single-use plastics, such as carryout bags and drinking straws. However, other disposable consumer products—including plastic cotton swabs, single-use cosmetic wipes, and small bottled water containers—remain widely available and contribute significantly to landfill waste and plastic pollution.

This bill would phase out the sale of specified single-use items in California by 2028 and promote reusable, refillable, and environmentally sustainable alternatives. It would direct the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) to oversee implementation, establish guidelines for refill stations, and provide grants to businesses and public facilities transitioning to zero-waste systems.

The purpose of this Act is to reduce plastic pollution, expand consumer access to sustainable products, and advance California's statewide commitment to a circular economy.

Vote: majority Appropriation: yes Fiscal Committee: yes Local Program: no

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1.

(a) Beginning January 1, 2028, no retailer, wholesaler, or distributor shall sell or distribute within the State of California any of the following single-use consumer products:

- (1) Cotton swabs with plastic stems.
- (2) Disposable makeup pads, cosmetic wipes, or similar items not designed for reuse.
- (3) Single-use plastic water bottles of less than one liter in volume.

(b) For purposes of this section:

(1) “Reusable” means a product designed and manufactured to be used multiple times for the same purpose.

(2) “Refill station” means a public or private installation that provides water, household products, or other refillable goods for consumer use.

(c) Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit the sale of products required for medical or emergency use.

(d) Plastic will be swapped out with materials such as bamboo, glass, or cardboard

Section 2

(a) The Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) shall:

(1) Establish statewide standards for the placement and accessibility of refill stations in schools, universities, government buildings, and commercial facilities.

(2) Provide technical guidance to businesses to adopt reusable alternatives.

(3) Conduct annual audits to measure statewide reductions in single-use waste.

(b) CalRecycle shall coordinate with local municipalities to encourage public-private partnerships that support refill infrastructure.

Section 3

This Act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

1.5 million budget