



March 28, 2019

The Honorable Ben Allen  
California State Capitol Room 4076  
Sacramento, CA 95814-4900

**Re: SB 54 (Allen) California Circular Economy and Plastic Pollution Reduction Act – SUPPORT**

Dear Senator Allen:

I am writing to you on behalf of the California Alliance for Retired Americans (CARA) to support SB 54, the California Circular Economy and Plastic Pollution Reduction Act. CARA is California's largest grassroots senior advocacy organization, representing one million seniors and their families through our 270 affiliated organizations.

There are now five Plastic Seas, around the world, such as the Pacific Garbage Patch famous for bobbing clots of plastic garbage. Undegraded plastics disrupt and endanger the lives of sea birds, turtles and other marine creatures. However, even today's degradable plastics are not biodegradable. Bigger plastic waste simply turns into smaller and smaller particles that infest many things we eat, our drinking water and ourselves. Mitigation of these problems is proving difficult so an impetus is needed to promote technological and economic countermeasures.

The national government is unwilling to promote actions to prevent catastrophic climate change, much less protect the public health and environment. So California needs to act as permitted by the Tenth Amendment of the US Constitution. The California Circular Economy and Plastic Pollution Reduction Act will provide that impetus. While these changes may disrupt manufacturers and vendors, significant change has always meant significant opportunities such as when cars replaced horse-drawn buggies.

For these reasons, CARA supports SB 54 and thanks you for introducing this important legislation. Our members and organization look forward to working with you on its passage.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 415-533-5244.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive that reads "Hene Kelly".

Hene Kelly  
Legislative Director  
415-533-5244