

1 [Urging the State of California to Require a Minimum of 25% Post-Consumer Recycled  
2 Content in Plastic Beverage Containers]

3 **Resolution urging the California State Legislature to require all single-use plastic**  
4 **beverage containers sold in the state to have a minimum of 25% post-consumer**  
5 **recycled content.**

6  
7 WHEREAS, California's landmark climate law, California State Assembly Bill 32  
8 (AB 32) (Nunez-Pavley, 2006) requires a reduction in statewide greenhouse gas pollution to  
9 1990 levels by 2020; and

10 WHEREAS, The City and County of San Francisco has adopted citywide goals of 75  
11 percent landfill diversion by 2010 and zero waste by 2020; and

12 WHEREAS, In order to be consistent with state goals of greenhouse gas reduction (AB  
13 32) and source reduction and recycling (California State Assembly Bill 341), the city must  
14 create a closed loop recycling system, support in-state recycling and manufacturing to  
15 increase the amount of products sold in California containing recycled content; and

16 WHEREAS, Over the last 30 years, largely in part due to California's Beverage  
17 Container Recycling and Litter Reduction Act ("Bottle Bill"), Californians have increasingly  
18 recycled their beverage containers, and the state's recycling rate now hovers about 85%, and  
19 according to CalRecycle, since 1987 when the program began, more than 300 billion  
20 aluminum, glass, and plastic beverage containers have been recycled; and

21 WHEREAS, Most Californians are unaware that while our *collection* for recycling rates  
22 are high, much of the materials are in fact exported overseas for recycling, for example 50%  
23 of PET beverage containers collected for recycling are still exported out of state or out of the  
24 country to China, Vietnam, and elsewhere, and because all collection in California is  
25 subsidized by California consumers, the respective subsidy also goes out of the country; and

1           WHEREAS, Post-consumer PET is a resource California should not be shipping to  
2 Asia in exchange for importing their cheap virgin resin, because it increases pollution; and

3           WHEREAS, California consumers should reasonably expect that the beverage and  
4 food containers they buy are made out of recycled content given our high recycling collection  
5 rates; and

6           WHEREAS, If more used plastic beverage containers are recycled into new containers  
7 in a closed-loop system, instead of ending up in domestic landfills or being exported with  
8 unknown outcomes, this would lead to significant reductions in greenhouse gas emissions,  
9 energy use and pollution associated with the mining and processing of virgin materials; and

10          WHEREAS, There is a 71% reduction in GHG emissions from the use of recycled PET  
11 compared to virgin resin, and 67% reduction for using recycled HDPE compared to virgin  
12 resin; and

13          WHEREAS, By collecting, processing and manufacturing materials collected in  
14 California into new products we can support a sustainable and prosperous California  
15 economy; and

16          RESOLVED, That the city of San Francisco urges the California legislature to require  
17 all single-use plastic beverage containers sold in the state to have a minimum of 25% post-  
18 consumer recycled content.



City and County of San Francisco

City Hall
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

Tails
Resolution

File Number: 160564

Date Passed: May 24, 2016

Resolution urging the California State Legislature to require all single-use plastic beverage containers sold in the state to have a minimum of 25% post-consumer recycled content.

May 24, 2016 Board of Supervisors - ADOPTED

Ayes: 11 - Avalos, Breed, Campos, Cohen, Farrell, Kim, Mar, Peskin, Tang, Wiener and Yee

File No. 160564

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on 5/24/2016 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

Handwritten signature of Angela Calvillo
Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board

Unsigned

Mayor

6/3/2016

Date Approved

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution, not being signed by the Mayor within the time limit as set forth in Section 3.103 of the Charter, or time waived pursuant to Board Rule 2.14.2, became effective without his approval in accordance with the provision of said Section 3.103 of the Charter or Board Rule 2.14.2.

Handwritten signature of Angela Calvillo
Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board