



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 15, 2024

Contact: Nicole.Winger@sen.ca.gov
(916) 651-4024

Senator Allen Introduces Legislation to Expand Responsibility of Household Hazardous Waste Producers

SB 1143 will save money while making safe disposal more convenient

SACRAMENTO – [Senator Ben Allen \(D – Santa Monica\)](#) introduced Senate Bill 1143 to establish extended producer responsibility (EPR) for household hazardous waste (HHW).

“Local governments are spending millions of dollars to provide household hazardous waste services – a cost born by ratepayers. Even with these investments, residents lack convenient disposal options for toxic products, resulting in unnecessary and dangerous risks,” Senator Allen said. “The Household Hazardous Waste Producer Responsibility Act creates a pathway for meaningful improvements in California’s waste management systems.”

In November, the California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) released their [2023 Hazardous Waste Management Report](#). According to the report, in the last 40 years the number of hazardous waste facilities permitted to accept hazardous waste decreased by over half in California, while the number of generators appeared to have almost doubled from 2010 to 2021. Most of the HHW that is collected is shipped out of state for disposal, which further contributes transportation emissions. The report also stated that DTSC is “not adequately resourced to implement a waste reduction program.”

The [California Commission on Recycling Markets and Curbside Recycling](#) (which was composed of 17 experts representing materials management companies, local governments, unions, and NGOs) unanimously recommended that the legislature establish EPR for HHW in 2021. Heidi Sanborn, Executive Director at the [National Stewardship Action Council](#) and Chair of the Commission shared, “California’s HHW system is costly, inconvenient, and in need of an overhaul. We thank Senator Allen for his leadership and for listening to the commissioners who volunteered their time to advise the legislature. SB 1143 is critical for California to reduce public costs and attain an equitable, circular economy.”

###

Ben Allen represents the 24th State Senate District, which consists of the Westside, Hollywood, South Bay, and Santa Monica Mountains communities of Los Angeles County.