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California State Senate

SENATOR

SCOTT WILK

SENATE REPUBLICAN LEADER

TWENTY-FIRST SENATE DISTRICT

COMMITTEES
GOVERNMENTAL
ORGANIZATION
TRANSPORTATION



September 15, 2021

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Governor, State of California
State Capitol, First Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Recommended Veto of AB 1276 (Carrillo)

Dear Governor Newsom:

I respectfully write to request your veto of Assembly Bill 1276, which bans restaurants from providing single-use condiments or single-use food accessories unless requested by the consumer, and requires local governments to enforce these provisions and impose infractions.

AB 1276 essentially blames our plastic waste problems on hotels supplying toiletries and restaurants including ketchup packets in 'to-go' orders. The real problem is that California's domestic recycling industry is incapable of recycling all of the plastic used, and the state is not incentivizing innovations that would create alternatives to the plastic products so commonly used and discarded.

Additionally, as you are aware, restaurants have been one of the industries hardest hit by COVID-19. Forced closures, outside seating, and minimal indoor capacity have left many restaurants teetering on the edge. Adding mandates and imposing fines at this time, as this bill proposes, would make it that much harder for these businesses to recover. There are far more pressing issues facing California at this time than limiting soy sauce or hot sauce packets in a to-go order.

For these reasons, I respectfully request your veto. If you have any questions about my request, please call my office at 916-651-4021 or email me at Senator.Wilk@senate.ca.gov

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Scott Wilk". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first and last names clearly legible.

Scott Wilk
Senate Republican Leader