

1 [Urging the California State Legislature to Approve California State Assembly Bill No. 2026
2 (Friedman) - Reducing Single-Use Plastic Packaging]

3 **Resolution urging the California State Legislature to approve California State Assembly**
4 **Bill No. 2026, authored by Assembly Member Laura Friedman, which would prohibit**
5 **single-use plastic packaging for online retailers.**

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7 WHEREAS, California has one of the highest recycling rates in the country, but
8 according to CalRecycle, our state dumps more than 12,000 tons of plastic into landfills every
9 day; and

10 WHEREAS, Globally, the e-commerce industry used nearly 2.9 billion pounds of plastic
11 packaging in 2020, and that amount is estimated to more than double by 2026; and

12 WHEREAS, In a report from Oceana, the group estimates that in 2020, Amazon alone
13 generated 599 million pounds of packaging worldwide, a 29% increase from 2019; and

14 WHEREAS, Plastic is a significant source of global greenhouse gas emissions that
15 contribute to climate change and ocean acidification; and

16 WHEREAS, Local governments in California spend more than \$420,000,000 annually
17 in efforts to clean up and prevent plastic and other litter from entering oceans and waterways,
18 which is paid for by taxpayers; and

19 WHEREAS, Plastic films including mailers, bubble wrap, and inflatable air pillows are
20 rarely recycled in California due to the plastic having little residual value; and

21 WHEREAS, Less than nine percent of all plastic waste created in the United States has
22 been recycled, meaning we cannot recycle our way out of our plastic problem; and

23 WHEREAS, Plastic bags and film can clog machinery at recycling centers and
24 endangers workers who have to cut the bags off the equipment; and

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1 WHEREAS, The production and distribution associated with plastic has significant
2 environmental impacts including environmental contamination due to the plastic breaking
3 down over time into microplastics, which make their way into our water systems; and

4 WHEREAS, According to a waste audit from Recology, annually San Francisco collects
5 more than 15,000 tons of single-use plastic in our city’s waste stream; and

6 WHEREAS, San Francisco’s Climate Action Plan outlines goals to reduce its
7 generation of discards by 15% and the disposal of discards to landfill and incineration by 50%,
8 with strategies including implementing policies to extend producer responsibility to reduce and
9 recover packaging; and

10 WHEREAS, Assembly Member Laura Friedman authored Assembly Bill No. 2026
11 which will phase out the use of plastic film in e-commerce packaging, phases out plastic
12 cushioning in or into the state of California, and extends the requirement that establishments
13 that provide carry out plastic bags to customers must provide a collection bin for collecting
14 and recycling the bags; and

15 WHEREAS, Assembly Bill No. 2026 will require e-commerce and businesses to shift to
16 alternatives to single-use plastic film and expanded polystyrene packaging, which are
17 currently available and already being used to ship products; now, therefore, be it

18 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco
19 urges the California State Legislature to approve Assembly Bill No. 2026; and, be it

20 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors urges Governor Gavin Newsom
21 to sign Assembly Bill No. 2026 when it arrives at his desk; and

22 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors hereby directs the Clerk of the
23 Board to transmit a copy of this Resolution to the California State Assembly and the California
24 State Senate, as well as the Bill’s primary sponsor and the Governor.