

March 27, 2024



The Honorable Ben Allen, Chair
Senate Environmental Quality Committee
1021 O Street, Suite 3230
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Senate Bill 1280 (Laird) – Ban on Propane Cylinders -- OPPOSE

Chair Allen:

On behalf of the California Retailers Association (CRA), we must respectfully oppose SB 1280, which would ban the sale of 1 lb. recyclable propane cylinders by January 1, 2028.

As retailers of these products, we know that consumers enjoy and want the convenience and price of these products. We further know that the refillable product will not meet the consumer demand and future needs for those who use small propane cylinders. While we share the goal of promoting sustainability and reducing environmental impact, we firmly believe that a blanket prohibition on recyclable 1 lb. propane cylinders is not the most pragmatic or equitable approach.

The California Retailers Association is the only statewide trade association representing all segments of the retail industry including general merchandise, department stores, mass merchandisers, on-line marketplaces, restaurants, convenience stores, supermarkets and grocery stores, retail pharmacies, and specialty retail such as auto, vision, jewelry, hardware, and home stores.

These 1 lb. propane cylinders are a staple product for many Californians, particularly outdoor enthusiasts and campers. Customers also rely on these cylinders for heating their garages and barns. Additionally, these products are critical for many Californians during unplanned power outages or public safety power shutoffs. Banning the sale of these propane cylinders would severely hinder convenience, especially without a viable market or infrastructure available to refill 1 lb. cylinders. A ban on these cylinders would also negatively impact the products they're used on, such as portable stoves, lanterns, heaters, and camping appliances.

SB 1280 would force retailers to only sell refillable 1 lb. propane cylinders starting in 2028. Due to the filling safety valve features of the refillable cylinders, these products are significantly more expensive for consumers.

For these reasons, CRA respectfully opposes SB 1280.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ryan Allain', is positioned above the typed name.

Ryan Allain
Director, Government Affairs
California Retailers Association

cc: Michelle Reyes, Office of Senator Laird