

SINGLE USE PLASTIC STRAW BAN AT FULL SERVICE RESTAURANTS

ASSEMBLY BILL (AB) 1884 (Calderon 2018)



In an effort to create awareness with consumers around the issue of one-time use plastic straws, as of January 1, 2019, unless a customer specifically makes a request to be provided with a straw, full-service restaurants are prohibited from automatically providing single-use plastic straws with beverages. Under the Public Resource Code, AB 1884 applies specifically to single-use plastic straw and does not include straws made from non-plastic materials such as paper, pasta, sugar cane, wood, or bamboo.

For the purpose of this regulation, a full service restaurant is defined as food facility where food may be consumed on the premises, and where all of the following actions are taken by an employee of the establishment:

(1) The consumer is escorted or assigned to an assigned eating area. The employee may choose the assigned eating area or may seat the consumer according to the consumer's need for accommodation or other request.

(2) The consumer's food and beverage orders are taken after the consumer has been seated at the assigned seating area.

(3) The food and beverage orders are delivered directly to the consumer.

(4) Any requested items associated with the consumer's food or beverage order are brought to the consumer.

(5) The check is delivered directly to the consumer at the assigned eating area.

The regulation provides that the local environmental health agency oversee the enforcement of the single service plastic straw ban. A first or second violation would result in a warning notice and any subsequent violation would be punishable by a fine of \$25 for each day the restaurant is in violation, up to a total of \$300 annually. The regulations also allows a city or county to adopt an ordinance or resolution that puts greater restriction on the use of single use plastic straws. Contact your local environmental health agency for specific guidance on the enforcement implementation of AB 1882 for your area.

A complete legislative text for AB 1884 – Single Service Plastic Straws can be found at: <u>California Legislative Information</u>.