

SB 45 (Padilla) - Recycling: beverage containers: tethered plastic caps.

- Starting January 1, 2027, most plastic beverage bottles with plastic caps must have caps that stay attached to the bottle.
- If a type of bottle already gets recycled over 70% of the time (based on 2022 and 2023 numbers), it doesn't have to follow the attached-cap rule until 2028.
- Exemptions for Certain Bottles:
 - Big bottles (2 liters or more).
 - Alcohol bottles (beer, wine, liquor).
 - 100% fruit juice bottles.

Bill Status

Referred to the Senate Appropriations Committee.



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Question 1

Does SB 45 eliminate California Redemption Value?

- No, SB 45 does not eliminate the CRV. The CRV program remains intact, allowing consumers to continue redeeming eligible beverage containers for refunds as before.
- The bill proposes eliminating the Quality Incentive Payment (QIP) program for **thermoform plastic** containers but does not impact the CRV system.
 - Under existing law, CalRecycle is authorized, subject to the availability of funds, to pay a quality incentive payment of up to \$180 per ton to qualified recyclers for thermoform plastic containers diverted from curbside recycling programs. SB 45 would delete that authorization.

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Question 2

Why doesn't SB 45 require both bottles and caps to be made of the same material?

SB 45 does **not** require bottles and caps to be made of the same uniform material because its focus is more on **recyclability** and **recycled content** rather than mandating **material uniformity** across all packaging components.

Uniform materials aren't mandated because:

- **Functional Requirements Differ**
- **Recyclability Focus**
- **Innovation and Industry Flexibility**
- **Post-Consumer Resin (PCR) Targets**