



Statement

For Immediate Release

June 2, 2010

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STOP THE \$1 BILLION BAG TAX

ARLINGTON, VA (June 2, 2010) – *Tim Shestek, Senior Director of State Affairs for the American Chemistry Council, issued the following statement on Assembly Bill 1998 (Brownley):*

“The last thing California consumers need right now is to have what amounts to a \$1 billion tax added to their grocery bills – but that’s what this legislation does. At a time when our state is struggling with cuts to schools, police service and health care, it’s astounding to think the Legislature is seriously considering creating a new \$1 million bureaucracy to monitor how people choose to pack their groceries – and putting 500 good-paying California jobs at risk in the process.”

“Across California, millions of bags and other product wraps are being recycled, thanks to the state’s partnerships with producers and retailers – important work that would stop and would actually result in more waste going to landfills if this bill is enacted. We’re urging lawmakers to rethink their priorities – and defeat Assembly Bill 1998.”

About the Plastics Division

The American Chemistry Council’s Plastics Division represents leading companies dedicated to providing innovative solutions to the challenges of today and tomorrow through plastics. Ongoing innovations in plastics have led to medical advances and safety equipment that make our lives better, healthier and safer every day. ACC members are finding innovative ways for plastics to help save energy, reduce green house gas emissions and decrease waste. Since plastics are a valuable resource, too valuable to waste, the Plastics Division is at the forefront of efforts to reduce litter through increased access to recycling, advancements in recycling technology, and public education.

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The American Chemistry Council (ACC) represents the leading companies engaged in the business of chemistry. ACC members apply the science of chemistry to make innovative products and services that make people's lives better, healthier and safer. ACC is committed to improved environmental, health and safety performance through Responsible Care[®], common sense advocacy designed to address major public policy issues, and health and environmental research and product testing. The business of chemistry is a \$689 billion enterprise and a key element of the nation's economy. It is one of the nation's largest exporters, accounting for ten cents out of every dollar in U.S. exports. Chemistry companies are among the largest investors in research and development. Safety and security have always been primary concerns of ACC members, and they have intensified their efforts, working closely with government agencies to improve security and to defend against any threat to the nation's critical infrastructure.

