



COUNTY OF MONTEREY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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Administration
Behavioral Health

Clinic Services
Emergency Medical Services
Environmental Health/Animal Services

Public Health
Public Administrator/Public Guardian

Nationally Accredited for Providing Quality Health Services

Frequently Asked Questions – AB 1884 (Single-Use Plastic Straws)

1. What is the new law regarding single-use plastic straws?

- AB 1884 prohibits full-service restaurants in California from providing single-use plastic straws to the consumer unless requested by the consumer.
- Assembly Bill (AB) 1884 - This regulation is applicable throughout the State of California including the 12 incorporated cities and the unincorporated areas of the County of Monterey.

2. What are single-use plastic straws?

- Single-use plastic straw means a single-use, disposable tube made predominantly of plastic derived from either petroleum or a biologically based polymer, such as corn or other plant sources, used to transfer a beverage from a container to the mouth of the person drinking the beverage.

3. What are some alternative options that can be given to the customer without prior request for single-use straws?

- Facilities can give these straws to the consumer without prior request: single-use straw made from non-plastic materials, including, but not limited to, paper, pasta, sugar cane, wood, or bamboo.

4. What is considered a full-service restaurant?

- A “full-service restaurant” means an establishment with the primary business purpose of serving food, where food may be consumed on the premises, and where all of the following actions are taken by an employee of the establishment:
 - 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.
 - The consumer’s food and beverage orders are taken after the consumer has been seated at the assigned seating area.
 - The food and beverage orders are delivered directly to the consumer.
 - Any requested items associated with the consumer’s food or beverage order are brought to the consumer.
 - The check is delivered directly to the consumer at the assigned eating area.

5. Who will enforce this new regulation?

- The regulation will be enforced by the County of Monterey Health Department Environmental Health Bureau as part of the routine inspection and complaint investigation of food service businesses.

6. Are there any violation fees if the law is not implemented at a facility?

- Yes, the bill specifies that the first and 2nd violations of these provisions would result in a notice of violation and any subsequent violation would be an infraction punishable by a fine of \$25 for each day the full-service restaurant is in violation, but not to exceed an annual total of \$300.

7. When are food operators required to comply with the new regulations?

- Effective January 1, 2019, food service business operators are required to comply with the provisions of AB 1884.
- The Monterey County Health Department – Environmental Health Bureau will provide education regarding the new bill (AB 1884) during routine inspections.

8. Will mobile food facilities (MFF) and restaurants that are not considered full-service facilities comply with AB 1884?

- Yes, Monterey County is taking the initiative to educate all our facilities about AB1884, and we are encouraging these facilities and MFF's to make the switch to other eco-friendly straw alternatives.

9. Who can I contact to find out additional information?

- Contact the County of Monterey Health Department -Environmental Health Bureau, Consumer Health Protection Services program at (831) 755-4508.