

LOS ANGELES COUNTY
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE/
INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT TASK FORCE
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DONALD L. WOLFE CHAIRMAN

June 21, 2007

The Honorable Jared Huffman State Capitol Room 4139 Sacramento, CA 94249-0006

Dear Assembly Member Huffman:

ASSEMBLY BILL 1535 (INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 23, 2007) EXPANSION OF THE ELECTRONIC WASTE RECYCLING ACT OF 2003

The Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/Integrated Waste Management Task Force (Task Force) **supports** Assembly Bill 1535 (AB 1535), which would add personal computers to the list of covered electronic devices in the Electronic Waste Recycling Act of 2003.

Pursuant to Chapter 3.67 of the Los Angeles County Code and the California Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989 (AB 939, as amended), the Task Force is responsible for coordinating the development of all major solid waste planning documents prepared for the County of Los Angeles and its 88 cities in Los Angeles County with a combined population in excess of 10 million. Consistent with these responsibilities, and to ensure a coordinated and cost-effective and environmentally-sound solid waste management system in Los Angeles County, the Task Force also addresses issues impacting the system on a Countywide basis. The Task Force membership includes representatives of the League of California Cities-Los Angeles County Division, the County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors, the City of Los Angeles, the waste management industry, environmental groups, the public, and a number of other governmental agencies.

The Electronic Waste Recycling Act of 2003 requires retailers to collect a waste recycling fee for each covered electronic device (e.g., cathode raytubes) sold in the State, and use the funds collected to reimburse collectors and recyclers for the costs associated with processing and recycling covered electronic waste.

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The Electronic Waste Recycling Act of 2003 has been largely a success, resulting in the proper collection and recycling of millions of pounds of potentially hazardous electronic waste. However, California still disposes of over 500,000 tons of electronic waste every year. Personal computers, which contain a number of toxic materials such as heavy metals and plastics, are currently not covered by the Act and are estimated to account for nearly 120,000 tons of electronic waste ending up in our landfills each year. AB 1535 would include personal computers under the definition of covered electronic devices, thereby providing a mechanism for reimbursement of costs associated with the collection and recycling of these materials. Ultimately, more personal computers would be recycled, preventing the disposal of hazardous materials contained within them.

Therefore the Task Force **supports** AB 1535. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Mike Mohajer of the Task Force at (909) 592-1147.

Sincerely,

Margaret Clark, Vice-Chair

Margaret Clark

Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/ Integrated Waste Management Task Force and Council Member, City of Rosemead

VJ/CS:cw P:\Sec\AB1535 (2)

cc: Assembly Speaker Fabian Núñez

Each Member of the Assembly Appropriations Committee

Each Member of the Los Angeles County Legislative Delegation

California Integrated Waste management Board

Each Member of the County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors

Each City Mayor in the County of Los Angeles

California State Association of Counties

League of California Cities

League of California Cities, Los Angeles County Division

Southern California Association of Governments

Solid Waste Association of North America

San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments

South Bay Cities Council of Governments

Each City Recycling Coordinator in Los Angeles County

Each Member of the Los Angeles County Integrated Waste Management Task Force