

LOS ANGELES COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE/ INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT TASK FORCE 900 SOUTH FREMONT AVENUE, ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA 91803-1331 P.O. BOX 1460, ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA 91802-1460 www.lacountyiswmtf.org

DONALD L. WOLFE CHAIRMAN

September 26, 2007

The Honorable Arnold Schwarzenegger Governor of the State of California State Capitol Building Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Governor Schwarzenegger:

## ASSEMBLY BILL 679 (ENROLLED SEPTEMBER 17, 2007) ILLEGAL DUMPING COST RECOVERY

The Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/Integrated Waste Management Task Force (Task Force) **requests your signature** on Assembly Bill 679 (AB 679), which will impose a fine in the amount of \$100 for an infraction or \$200 for a misdemeanor in addition to any other penalty or fine for illegal dumping or littering offenses.

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.

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Assembly Bill 679, if enacted, can help to offset the costs of illegal dumping cleanup and act as a deterrent to potential violators by imposing a fine in the amount of \$100 for an infraction or \$200 for a misdemeanor in addition to any other penalty or fine. Funds collected would be deposited directly into the local jurisdiction's general fund for illegal dumping cleanup and enforcement efforts.

Illegal dumping poses a threat to public health and safety, reduces quality of life, lowers property values, and harms the environment. In addition, illegal dumping creates a major economic burden on local governments, which bear the burden of clean up and deterring illegal dumping. Therefore the Task Force **requests your signature** on AB 679. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Mike Mohajer of the Task Force at (909) 592-1147.

Sincerely,

Margaret Clark

Margaret Clark, Vice-Chair Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/ Integrated Waste Management Task Force and Council Member, City of Rosemead

VJ:cw P:\Sec\AB 679 governor

cc: Assembly Speaker Fabian Nuñez Senate President Pro Tem Don Perata Assembly Member John Benoit 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 San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments South Bay Cities Council of Governments Antelope Valley Illegal Dumping Committee Each City Recycling Coordinator in Los Angeles County Each Member of the Los Angeles County Integrated Waste Management Task Force