



MARK PESTRELLA, CHAIR  
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LOS ANGELES COUNTY  
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE/  
INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT TASK FORCE  
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June 20, 2017

The Honorable Ed Hernandez, Chair  
Senate Committee on Health  
State Capitol, Room 2191  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Senator Hernandez:

### **SUPPORT ASSEMBLY BILL 1219 (EGGMAN): FOOD DONATIONS**

The Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/Integrated Waste Management Task Force (Task Force) is pleased to **support** Assembly Bill 1219 (AB 1219), as amended on, June 13, 2017. If enacted, AB 1219 would enact the California Good Samaritan Food Donation Act to expand those provisions to persons and gleaners who donate food, and include donations of food directly to end recipients. Among other things, this bill would provide that donation of food that is mislabeled or exceeds the recommended shelf life date is subject to liability protection. Such immunity is not applicable to injuries resulting from gross negligence or willful act.

Food is the most prevalent item in the State's waste stream, with over 5.5 million tons of food dumped in landfills every year. Combined with other organic waste, uneaten food contributes to approximately 20% of the state's methane emissions. Manufacturers, restaurants, and retailers have expressed liability concerns as their primary barrier to food donations.

Discarding edible food is a misuse of valuable resources that can be used to address hunger which is another growing problem in the state. AB 1219, will help make use of edible food and help the state meet its ambitious organic waste diversion and food recovery goals.

Pursuant to the California Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989 (Assembly Bill 939) and Chapter 3.67 of the Los Angeles County Code, the Task Force is responsible for coordinating the development of all major solid waste planning documents prepared for the County of Los Angeles and the 88 cities in Los Angeles County with a combined population in excess of ten 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, County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors, City of Los Angeles, the waste management industry, environmental groups, the public, and a number of other governmental agencies.

For the foregoing reasons, the Task Force **supports** AB 1219 as amended on June 13, 2017. Should you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Mr. Mike Mohajer, a member of the Task Force, at [MikeMohajer@yahoo.com](mailto:MikeMohajer@yahoo.com) or at (909) 592-1147.

Sincerely,



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

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cc: Assembly Member Susan Talamantes Eggman  
Each Member of the Senate Committee on Health  
Senate Committee on Health Consultant, Vincent D. Marchand  
California State Association of Counties  
League of California Cities – Los Angeles County Division  
Each member of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors  
Sachi A. Hamai, Los Angeles County Chief Executive Officer  
San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments  
South Bay Cities Council of Governments  
Gateway Cities Council of Governments  
Westside Cities Council of Governments  
Each City Mayor and City Manager in the County of Los Angeles  
Each City Recycling Coordinator in Los Angeles County  
Each Member of the Los Angeles County Integrated Waste Management Task  
Force