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LOS ANGELES COUNTY  
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE/  
INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT TASK FORCE  
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April 2, 2019

The Honorable Laura Friedman, Chair  
Assembly Committee on Natural Resources  
1020 N Street, Room 171  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Assembly Member Friedman:

**SUPPORT – ASSEMBLY BILL 1509 (MULLIN AND BERMAN) AS INTRODUCED  
FEBRUARY 22, 2019 – SOLID WASTE: RECHARGEABLE BATTERIES:  
RECHARGEABLE CONSUMER PRODUCTS.**

The Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/Integrated Waste Management Task Force (Task Force) **supports** Assembly Bill 1509 (AB 1509), Solid Waste: Rechargeable Batteries: Rechargeable Consumer Products, introduced on February 22, 2019. The proposed legislation, if enacted, would amend the California Dry Cell Battery Management Act by requiring manufacturers of products with a non-removable rechargeable battery to provide disassembly information to recyclers of rechargeable consumer products. This would reduce/eliminate the potential for these batteries entering solid waste stream which when punctured cause fires and/or explosions that have significantly damaged waste hauler trucks, Material Recovery Facilities and other solid waste management facilities.

Usage of rechargeable and non-removable rechargeable batteries (mostly Lithium-ion) is on the rise: around 95 percent of Americans own a mobile phone, and almost 50 percent have handheld gadgets such as e-readers. Call2Recycle's latest market survey found that 60 percent of consumers throw away some or all of their single-use batteries and 15 percent do the same with rechargeable batteries. This bill would also ensure proper recycling to reduce any contamination and improve the quality of recycled materials diverted from solid waste facilities that necessitated the disposal of those materials to avoid any public health threat.

Pursuant to Chapter 3.67 of the Los Angeles County Code and the California Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989 (Assembly Bill 939 [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 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, cost-effective, and environmentally

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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, waste management industry, environmental groups, the public, and a number of other governmental agencies.

Based on the foregoing, the Task Force **supports** AB 1509. If you have any questions, 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  
Mayor Pro Tem, City of Rosemead

PG:EC:cso

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cc: Assembly Member Mullin  
Assembly Member Berman  
Senator Hill  
Assembly Member Bloom  
Assembly Member Eggman  
Each Member and staff of the Assembly Committee on Natural Resources  
Andrew Zingale, Office of Assembly Member Mullin  
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 Solid Waste Management Committee/Integrated  
Waste Management Task Force