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LOS ANGELES COUNTY
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE/
INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT TASK FORCE
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September 12, 2022

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Governor, State of California
State Capitol Building, Suite 1173
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Governor Newsom:

**REQUEST TO SIGN – ASSEMBLY BILL 2440 (IRWIN) AS ENROLLED ON
SEPTEMBER 2, 2022 – RESPONSIBLE BATTERY RECYCLING ACT OF 2022**

The Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/Integrated Waste Management Task Force (Task Force) is pleased to **support** Assembly Bill 2240 (AB 2240), as enrolled on September 2, 2022.

The proposed legislation, if enacted, among other things, would enact the Responsible Battery Recycling Act of 2022 (ACT), requiring producers of covered batteries, as defined, to either individually or through the creation of one or more stewardship organizations, establish a stewardship program for the free and convenient collection, transportation, and recycling of covered batteries. The bill would require a program operator to develop and submit a stewardship plan with standards and elements required to be contained in a stewardship plan for covered batteries to the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) and the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) for review and approval. The bill also requires CalRecycle in consultation with DTSC to adopt regulations to implement the ACT with an effective date of no earlier than April 1, 2025. Additionally, the proposed legislation would provide for enforcement of the ACT, including authorizing CalRecycle to impose an administrative civil penalty on a stewardship organization, producer, manufacturer, distributor, retailer, importer, recycler, or collection site in violation of the ACT. The amount of the civil penalty is not to exceed \$10,000 per day, unless the violation is intentional, knowing, or reckless, then in that case not to exceed \$50,000 per day.

The Task Force is in support of this measure as it would create a proper and safe collection program for batteries which are often discarded in curbside solid waste containers or recyclable bins posing battery fire threats to solid waste collection personnel, transportation vehicles, and recycling facilities.

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Pursuant to Chapter 3.67 of the Los Angeles County Code and the California Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989 (Assembly Bill 939), 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, waste management industry, environmental groups, the public, and a number of other governmental agencies.

Based on the foregoing, the Task Force **supports** AB 2240 and respectfully requests your signature on this legislation. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Mike Mohajer, a member of the Task Force, at MikeMohajer@yahoo.com or (909) 592-1147.

Sincerely,



Sam Shammass, Vice-Chair
Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/
Integrated Waste Management Task Force

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cc: Assembly Member Irwin
California State Association of Counties
League of California Cities – Los Angeles County Division
Each Member of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors
Fesia A. Davenport, Los Angeles County Chief Executive Officer
Gateway Cities Council of Governments
San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments
South Bay Cities Council of Governments
Westside Cities Council of Governments
Each City Mayor and Manager in the County of Los Angeles
Each City Recycling Coordinator in the County of Los Angeles
Each Member of the Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/
Integrated Waste Management Task Force