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August 23, 2021

## \*\*\* FLOOR ALERT \*\*\*

TO: California State Senators

FROM: Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/ Integrated Waste Management Task Force

## SUPPORT – ASSEMBLY BILL 322 (SALAS) AS AMENDED ON AUGUST 18, 2021 – ENERGY: ELECTRIC PROGRAM INVESTMENT CHARGE PROGRAM: BIOMASS

The Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/Integrated Waste Management Task Force (Task Force) **supports** Assembly Bill 322 (AB 322), as amended on August 18, 2021.

If enacted, the proposed legislation would require the California Energy Commission (CEC) to consider, in the investment planning process for the Electric Program Investment Charge (EPIC) program, bioenergy projects for biomass energy projects, using new and emerging technologies that maximize ratepayer and public benefits. The Task Force is supportive of the proposed legislation as it would help improve solid waste management practices and reduce emissions of the most damaging climate and air pollutants by providing a beneficial alternative to open burning and landfilling of biomass waste. By encouraging biomass conversion projects, the bill would reduce air pollution from the direct combustion of waste biomass. The bill also provides opportunities for development of much needed bioenergy projects that reduce short-lived climate pollutant emissions and generate carbon negative emissions, while increasing State energy reliability.

As provided by AB 939 (1989) and Chapter 3.67 of the Los Angeles County Code, the Task Force is responsible for coordinating the development of major solid waste planning documents for Los Angeles County and the 88 cities in the County with a population of over ten million. The Task Force addresses issues impacting the solid waste management system on a countywide basis.

Based on the foregoing, the Task Force **supports AB 322** and respectfully request your **AYE** vote on the bill. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Mike Mohajer, a member of the Task Force, at <u>MikeMohajer@yahoo.com</u> or at (909) 592-1147.

cc: Assembly Member Salas