

MARK PESTRELLA, PE, CHAIR MARGARET CLARK, VICE - CHAIR 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

August 3, 2021

The Honorable Anthony J. Portantino, Chair Senate Committee on Appropriations State Capitol, Room 2206 Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Senator Portantino:

## SUPPORT - ASSEMBLY BILL 818 (BLOOM) AS AMENDED ON JULY 1, 2021 - SOLID WASTE: PREMOISTENED NONWOVEN DISPOSABLE WIPES

The Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/Integrated Waste Management Task Force (Task Force) **supports** Assembly Bill 818 (AB 818), as amended on July 1, 2021.

The proposed legislation, if enacted, would require certain premoistened nonwoven disposable wipes manufactured on or after July 1, 2022, to be labeled clearly and conspicuously with the phrase "Do Not Flush" and a related symbol. The bill would also prohibit manufacturers from making a representation about the flushable attributes, benefits, performance, or efficacy of premoistened nonwoven disposable wipes

Additionally, AB 818, until January 1, 2027, would establish the California Consumer Education and Outreach Program, under which manufacturers and retailers would be required to participate in a collection study conducted in collaboration with wastewater agencies for the purpose of gaining understanding of consumer behavior regarding the flushing of premoistened nonwoven disposable wipes and to conduct a comprehensive multimedia education and outreach program in the state. Reports must be filed with the Legislature and the State Water Resources Control Board (Board) on activities under the program and would require the Board to post the reports on its internet website.

The Task Force supports the proposed legislation because the bill would help to ensure the proper disposal of the covered personal hygiene/cleaning products to protect public health, the environment, and combat problems to public sewage infrastructure caused by improperly flushing these products. 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 818 as indicated in this letter. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Mike Mohajer, a member of the Task Force, at MikeMohajer@yahoo.com or at (909) 592-1147.

Sincerely,

Margaret Clark, Vice-Chair

Margaret Clark

Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/

Integrated Waste Management Task Force and

Mayor, City of Rosemead

## PG:cd:cso

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cc: Assembly Member Bloom

Each Member and staff of the Senate Committee on Appropriations

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 City 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