



MARK PESTRELLA, CHAIR
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LOS ANGELES COUNTY
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE/
INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT TASK FORCE
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July 10, 2018

The Honorable Lorena Gonzalez-Fletcher, Chair
Assembly Committee on Appropriations
State Capitol, Room 2114
Sacramento, California 95814

Dear Assembly Member Gonzalez-Fletcher:

**SUPPORT IF AMENDED – OPPOSE UNLESS AMENDED – SENATE BILL 168
(WIECKOWSKI) AS AMENDED ON JULY 5, 2018 – RECYCLING: BEVERAGE
CONTAINERS**

The Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/Integrated Waste Management Task Force (Task Force) **supports** Senate Bill 168 (SB 168), as amended on July 5, 2018, provided it is **amended** as indicated in this letter, and **opposes** it **unless amended** as indicated in this letter.

If enacted, SB 168 would require CalRecycle, on or before January 1, 2021, to establish minimum content standards for beverage containers that are constructed of metal, glass, or plastic, or other material or combination thereof, including recycled materials. The bill would require CalRecycle on or before January 1, 2020, to evaluate other beverage container redemption programs and to provide to the Legislature a report on aspects of those programs that may be incorporated into California's beverage container redemption program. SB 168 would also authorize CalRecycle to adjust the minimum content standards but not more frequently than annually.

The Task Force is in favor of establishing minimum content standards for beverage containers as this supports the expansion of recycling markets and infrastructure in California while simultaneously reducing waste, energy consumption and air pollution. Furthermore, SB 168 can reduce California's reliance on exporting recyclable materials and address some of the challenges posed by China's National Sword policy.

However, the Task Force has concerns with the methodology to task CalRecycle with establishing minimum content standards without input from industry groups and local jurisdictions as this may result in inefficient standards and undermine the intent of the bill. Therefore, the Task Force recommends amending the bill to include a working group comprised of beverage and recycling industry groups, local jurisdictions, and other stakeholders to work with CalRecycle on establishing minimum content standards for beverage containers.

Pursuant to Chapter 3.67 of the Los Angeles County Code and the California Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989 (AB 939), the Task Force is responsible for coordinating the

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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** SB 168 **if amended** to include a working group comprised of beverage and recycling industry groups, local jurisdictions, and other stakeholders, and **opposes** SB 168 **unless amended** to include a working group comprised of beverage and recycling industry groups, local jurisdictions, and other stakeholders. 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
Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/
Integrated Waste Management Task Force and
Mayor Pro Tem, City of Rosemead

BC:mq

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cc: Senator Wieckowski
Senator Stone
Each Member and staff of the Assembly Appropriations Committee
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