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LOS ANGELES COUNTY
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE/
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May 21, 2019

***** FLOOR ALERT *****

TO: Members, California State Senate

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

SUPPORT IF AMENDED – SB 54 (AS AMENDED MAY 7, 2019) – CALIFORNIA CIRCULAR ECONOMY AND PLASTIC POLLUTION REDUCTION ACT

The Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/Integrated Waste Management Task Force (Task Force) **supports** Senate Bill 54 (SB 54), as amended May 7, 2019, provided it is **amended** as indicated in this letter. If enacted, SB 54 would formulate the California Circular Economy and Plastic Pollution Reduction Act. The Act, among other things, would require the State Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) to adopt regulations on or before January 1, 2023 to achieve, by 2030, a 75 percent reduction by manufacturers and retailers of the waste generated from single-use packaging and products offered for sale or sold in California through combined source reduction, recycling and composting to the maximum extent feasible. Additionally, manufacturers and retailers must transition single-use packaging and products to be all reusable, recyclable or compostable by 2030.

The Task Force is supportive of the State's efforts to reduce, reuse, recycle, and compost waste. We also commend the bill's intent to promulgate California circular economics and plastic pollution reduction which will result in a packaging policy that is environmentally responsible. However, the proposed legislation needs to include provisions to make the proposal economically sustainable while providing necessary tools to provide for the needed infrastructures. Therefore, the Task Force **supports** the proposed legislation **if amended** to also include:

1. Ensure CalRecycle to not impose overreaching and unjustifiable regulations on local governments and waste management industry.
2. Clarify definitions and terminologies to provide more clarity.
3. Clarify directions for CalRecycle to use subject matter experts, including composting operators and local jurisdictions to determine what is compostable.

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** SB 54 **if amended**. 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.

cc: Senators Allen, Skinner, Stern, and Wiener.