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LOS ANGELES COUNTY
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE/
INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT TASK FORCE
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April 19, 2019

The Honorable Benjamin Allen, Chair
Senate Committee on Environmental Quality
State Capitol, Room 2205
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Senator Allen:

SUPPORT AND AMEND – SENATE BILL 724 (STERN AND GLAZER) AS INTRODUCED ON FEBRUARY 22, 2019 – THE CALIFORNIA BEVERAGE CONTAINER RECYCLING AND LITTER REDUCTION ACT

The Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/Integrated Waste Management Task Force (Task Force) **supports** Senate Bill 724 (SB 724), as introduced on February 22, 2019, and **suggests amending it** as indicated in this letter. If enacted, the proposed legislation, among other things, would help to stabilize the recycling marketplace and infrastructure by providing relief to California's retailers and grocers affected by the recycling center closures, and ensure consumers have local redemption opportunities for CRV beverage containers.

If enacted, the proposed legislation:

- Restores recycling incentives to 2015 levels, reflective of cost-of-living;
- Extends plastic recycling market development incentives to ensure California processing and re-manufacturing capacity in light of China National Sword's recent impact on plastic recycling markets;
- Refocuses CalRecycle resources on bringing recycling opportunities to unserved communities while providing temporary relief to dealers faced with take-back requirements at no fault of their own; and
- Requires CalRecycle to develop recommendations to the Legislature by January 1, 2021, to ensure that the handling fee calculations are adequate to maintain the state's recycling infrastructure.

However, the Task Force recommends amending SB 724 to include the following:

1. Change "may" to "shall" for how funding is to be used, and
2. Increase the monies allocated for market development payments to reclaimers.

The Task Force supports the proposed legislation because it would help to stabilize and begin to provide a much needed fix for our state's significantly ailing recycling marketplace.

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

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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 724, and **suggests amending it** 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
Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/
Integrated Waste Management Task Force and
Mayor Pro Tem, City of Rosemead

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cc: Senator Stern
Senator Glazer
Each Member and staff of the Senate Committee on Environmental Quality
Andrew Zingale, Office of Assembly Member Mullin
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