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LOS ANGELES COUNTY
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE/
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May 24, 2022

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

TO: California State Senators

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

**SUPPORT IF AMENDED - SENATE BILL 1046 (EGGMAN AND GONZALEZ) AS AMENDED
ON MAY 17, 2022 – SOLID WASTE: PRECHECKOUT BAGS**

The Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/Integrated Waste Management Task Force (Task Force) **supports** Senate Bill 1046 (SB 1046), as amended on May 17, 2022, provided it is **amended** to include the recommendations in this letter.

If enacted, the proposed legislation would prohibit, commencing January 1, 2025, certain stores from providing a precheckout bag to a customer unless the bag is compostable or a recycled paper bag.

The Task Force is in support of SB 1046 for addressing the pervasive negative impacts of single-use bags which are made of non-recyclable plastic materials that often contaminate compost waste streams with microplastics resulting in non-compliance with SB 1383 (Lara, 2016).

However, consumers also confuse compostable bags for plastic bags and place them in the recycling bins where they contaminate the recycling stream and may interfere with material recovery facilities' recycling operations. The Task Force recommends striking out "compostable" from the bill language and only mention paper bags as an alternative to eliminate contamination in the compost waste streams and the plastic recycling streams.

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 1046 **if amended** to address the concerns expressed in this letter. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Mike Mohajer, a member of the Task Force, at MikeMohajer@yahoo.com or (909) 592-1147.

cc: Senator (Eggman, Gonzalez)