



MARK PESTRELLA, CHAIR
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LOS ANGELES COUNTY
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE/
INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT TASK FORCE
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August 9, 2017

The Honorable Ricardo Lara, Chair
Senate Committee on Appropriations
State Capitol, Room 2206
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Senator Lara:

SUPPORT ASSEMBLY BILL 1219 (EGGMAN): FOOD DONATIONS

The Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/Integrated Waste Management Task Force (Task Force) is pleased to **support** Assembly Bill 1219 (AB 1219), as amended on, June 13, 2017. If enacted, AB 1219 would enact the California Good Samaritan Food Donation Act to expand those provisions to persons and gleaners who donate food, and include donations of food directly to end recipients. Among other things, this bill would provide that donation of food that is mislabeled or exceeds the recommended shelf life date is subject to liability protection. Such immunity is not applicable to injuries resulting from gross negligence or willful act.

Food is the most prevalent item in the State's waste stream, with over 5.5 million tons of food dumped in landfills every year. Combined with other organic waste, uneaten food contributes to approximately 20% of the state's methane emissions. Manufacturers, restaurants, and retailers have expressed liability concerns as their primary barrier to food donations.

Discarding edible food is a misuse of valuable resources that can be used to address hunger which is another growing problem in the state. AB 1219, will help make use of edible food and help the state meet its ambitious organic waste diversion and food recovery goals.

Pursuant to the California Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989 (Assembly Bill 939) and Chapter 3.67 of the Los Angeles County Code, 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

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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, the waste management industry, environmental groups, the public, and a number of other governmental agencies.

For the foregoing reasons, the Task Force **supports** AB 1219 as amended on June 13, 2017. Should you have any questions regarding this matter, 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
Council Member, City of Rosemead

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cc: Assembly Member Susan Eggman
Each Member of the Senate Committee on Appropriations
Senate Committee on Appropriations Consultant, Shaun Naidu
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 Integrated Waste Management Task
Force