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LOS ANGELES COUNTY  
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE/  
INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT TASK FORCE  
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September 23, 2019

The Honorable Gavin Newsom  
Governor, State of California  
State Capitol Building, Suite 1173  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Governor Newsom:

**REQUEST FOR SIGNATURE – ASSEMBLY BILL 142 (ENROLLED ON  
SEPTEMBER 10, 2019) – LEAD-ACID BATTERIES**

The Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/Integrated Waste Management Task Force (Task Force) respectfully requests your signature on Assembly Bill 142 (AB 142). AB 142 would increase both the existing Manufacturer Battery Fee, and the California Battery Fee on purchases of a replacement lead battery, both from \$1.00 to \$2.00 effective April 1, 2022. Funds from both manufacturer and specified purchaser fees are currently allocated to the State Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC).

Additionally, this bill would establish a Lead-Acid Battery Recycling Facility Investigation and Cleanup Program, or LABRIC Program, which would be responsible for identifying areas of the state that are eligible for expenditure of moneys from the Lead-Acid Battery Cleanup Fund for certain purposes, with an unspecified funding allocation. The funds are used by DTSC for investigation, site evaluation, cleanup, remedial action, removal, monitoring or other response actions at any areas in the State that may have been contaminated by the operation of a lead-acid battery recycling facility. Currently there are two lead-acid facility in Los Angeles County, Exide Technologies facility in Vernon [currently closed] and Quemetco, Inc., recycling facility in the unincorporated areas adjacent to the City of Industry. Exide facility is currently undergoing cleanup activities via a \$176.6 million loan/funding from State General Fund to DTSC. The proposed legislation will maintain the current funding allocation for the cleanup activities, as well as provide additional funds toward repayment of the Exide \$176.6 million cleanup fund if and at such time that all lead-acid battery recycling sites in California are investigated and cleanup activities are completed.

The Task Force strongly supports the proposed legislation because it would continue the state efforts to clean up contaminated lead-acid battery sites, and to protect these sites' neighboring residents and children. Additionally, the proposal provides for a permanent revenue source to provide for the cost of cleanup activities.

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 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 strongly supports AB 142, and respectfully requests your signature on this legislation. If you or staff have any questions, please contact Mr. Mike Mohajer, a member of the Task Force, at [MikeMohajer@yahoo.com](mailto: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, City of Rosemead

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cc: Assembly Member Cristina Garcia  
Rachel Machi Wagoner, Office of Governor Gavin Newsom  
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