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LOS ANGELES COUNTY  
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE/  
INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT TASK FORCE  
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April 9, 2018

The Honorable Toni G. Atkins, Chair  
Senate Committee on Rules  
State Capitol, Room 400  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Senator Atkins:

**SUPPORT ASSEMBLY BILL 1663 (GARCIA) AS AMENDED ON JANUARY 22, 2018:  
LEAD-ACID BATTERIES**

The Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/Integrated Waste Management Task Force (Task Force) **supports** Assembly Bill 1663 (AB 1663), as amended January 22, 2018.

If enacted, AB 1663 would modify the existing law to state that a “manufacturer” includes a person who imports a lead-acid battery into this state, and is subject to the jurisdiction of the state if that person is a retailer doing business in this state. In addition, since out- of-state manufacturers are not subject to the state's taxing authority, the bill would create a mechanism that allows the California importer to agree in writing with the out- of- state manufacturer to pay the manufacturer battery fee on behalf of the importer. The bill keeps intact the manufacturer and importer's ultimate responsibility for registration, reporting, and payment of the manufacturer battery fee.

The Task Force supports AB 1663 as it seeks to ensure that the required fees from lead- acid battery manufacturers from outside the state are collected accordingly. This is of significance given that most of lead-acid battery manufacturers are located outside of California. The bill would also benefit cleanup efforts as the fees collected are deposited in the Lead Battery Cleanup Fund (Fund). The Fund is a dedicated source to pay for clean-up of contaminated sites such as the Exide battery recycling site in Vernon, California.

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

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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 **supports** AB 1663. If you 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  
Council Member, City of Rosemead

BC:

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cc: Assembly Member Cristina Garcia  
Each Member of the Senate Committee on Rules  
Secretary of the Senate, Daniel Alvarez  
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