



MARK PESTRELLA, CHAIR
MARGARET CLARK, VICE - CHAIR

LOS ANGELES COUNTY
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE/
INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT TASK FORCE
900 SOUTH FREMONT AVENUE, ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA 91803-1331
P.O. BOX 1460, ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA 91802-1460
www.lacountyiswmtf.org

May 2, 2018

The Honorable Lorena Gonzalez-Fletcher, Chair
Assembly Committee on Appropriations
State Capitol, Room 2114
Sacramento, California 95814

Dear Assembly Member Gonzalez-Fletcher:

**SUPPORT IF AMENDED – OPPOSE UNLESS AMENDED – ASSEMBLY BILL 1981
(LIMÓN) ORGANIC WASTE: COMPOSTING – AMENDED APRIL 30, 2018**

The Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/Integrated Waste Management Task Force (Task Force) **supports** Assembly Bill 1981 (AB 1981), as amended on April 30, 2018, provided it is **amended** as indicated in this letter, and **opposes** it **unless amended** as indicated in this letter.

If enacted, AB 1981 would include the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection to the list of state agencies required to work with the California Environmental Protection Agency to develop and implement a plan to aid in diverting organic waste from landfills by promoting composting, and by promoting the appropriate use of that compost throughout the state.

The Task Force supports state agencies' efforts to develop and implement policies that promote composting and its appropriate use and application throughout the state. However, the Task Force opposes the application of compost on "wild lands", which have large natural seed banks that need to germinate, particularly after a wild fire. Compost may prevent seeds from germinating and later sprouting and result in degradation of these natural areas. Therefore, the Task Force recommends amending the bill to include measures to prevent the application of compost on wild lands, but supports the use of it along roads and in certain agriculture applications.

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 **supports** AB 1981 **if amended** to include measures to prevent the application of compost on wild lands and **opposes** AB 1981 **unless amended** to include measures to prevent the application of compost on wild lands. 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

BC:mq

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cc: Assembly Member Monique Limón
Each Member and Staff of the Assembly Committee on Appropriations
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