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LOS ANGELES COUNTY
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE/
INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT TASK FORCE
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September 6, 2016

The Honorable Edmund G. Brown, Jr.
Governor, State of California
State Capitol Building
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Governor Brown:

**REQUEST FOR SIGNATURE – ASSEMBLY BILL 2153 (ENROLLED
SEPTEMBER 1, 2016) LEAD-ACID BATTERY RECOVERY AND RECYCLING ACT**

The Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/Integrated Waste Management Task Force (Task Force) respectfully requests your signature on Assembly Bill 2153 (AB 2153). If enacted, AB 2153 would establish the Lead-Acid Battery Cleanup Fund to pay for the cleanup of lead contaminated sites and neighboring residents. The funding would be provided through (a) collection of \$1 fee from consumers at the time of purchase for each lead-acid battery, and (b) imposition of a \$1 fee for every lead-acid battery sold by a manufacturer which will sunset five years after the effective date of legislation while raising the consumer fee to \$2. It is estimated that collected fees would annually generate approximately \$30 million to \$40 million. The proposed legislation would further require dealers to accept a used lead-acid battery of the same type and size, at no cost, when selling a replacement battery.

The Task Force finds it unfortunate that it took a health and safety issues such as the one at the Exide battery recycling facility to hold operators and manufacturers accountable for this hazardous product. While the Task Force recognizes that AB 2153 is a step in the right direction, it also strongly believes it can be strengthened further by employing extended producer responsibility strategies in the lead-acid battery industry. With future refinement, this piece of legislation will stand to further protect the health and safety of residents and the environment from another Exide-like situation.

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

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

Based on the foregoing, the Task Force supports AB 2153, and respectfully requests your signature on this legislation. 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 Christina Garcia
California State Association of Counties
League of California Cities, Los Angeles County Division
Each Member of the County of Los Angeles 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
Los Angeles County Department of Public Health
Each Member of the Los Angeles County Integrated Waste Management Task Force