



MARK PESTRELLA, CHAIR
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LOS ANGELES COUNTY
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE/
INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT TASK FORCE
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April 23, 2018

The Honorable Al Muratsuchi, Chair
Assembly Committee on Natural Resources
1020 N Street, Room 164
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Assembly Member Muratsuchi:

SUPPORT AND AMEND ASSEMBLY BILL 3178 (RUBIO) INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT PLANS: SOURCE REDUCTION AND RECYCLING ELEMENT: DIVERSION REQUIREMENTS – AMENDED APRIL 16, 2018

The Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/Integrated Waste Management Task Force (Task Force) **supports** Assembly Bill 3178 (AB 3178), as amended April 16, 2018, and suggests further **amending it** as indicated in this letter.

If enacted, AB 3178 would allow a jurisdiction until January 1, 2023, to temporarily arrange for the disposal of recyclable materials caused by the necessities of the existing facility to operate within its design or permitted storage limit, in order to protect public health and safety. Additionally, the proposal would require the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle), when evaluating a jurisdiction's good faith effort, to also consider whether the absence or loss of market for recyclable materials necessitates the disposal of recyclable materials as a temporary measure to protect public health and safety.

Markets for recyclables are essential for local jurisdictions and State agencies in order to meet the California's 75 percent recycling goal by 2020. Also, according to CalRecycle, over 60 percent of exported recyclable materials were shipped to China in 2016 (approximately 6.4 million tons). However, the new 2017 policy by China establishing a new recyclable materials contamination level of 0.5 percent maximum, practically has made it impossible for the existing facilities to achieve. The proposed legislation provides the necessary tools to address the void created by the new China policy on a temporary basis so that the needed infrastructure can be developed and made operational.

The Honorable Al Muratsuchi

April 23, 2018

Page 2

Accordingly, the Task Force supports AB 3178 as it seeks to address the issue of reduction in recycling markets by providing flexibility to local jurisdictions to meet diversion goals. Further, (1) the Task Force strongly believes that the development of needed in-state infrastructures using various types of recycling technologies is essential to meet the State's recycling goal while achieving the State's greenhouse gas reduction mandates; and (2) the Task Force requests adding a language to the bill that would require CalRecycle to also consider per capita disposal rates when determining if a jurisdiction has made a good faith effort to meet the state-mandated recycling goals.

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 3178 and suggests **amending it** as indicated in this letter. 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

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cc: Assembly Member Blanca Rubio
Each Member of the Assembly Committee on Natural Resources
Committee Chief Consultant, Lawrence Lingbloom
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

The Honorable Al Muratsuchi

April 23, 2018

Page 3

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