



MARK PESTRELLA, CHAIR
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LOS ANGELES COUNTY
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE/
INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT TASK FORCE
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June 4, 2019

The Honorable Benjamin Allen, Chair
Senate Committee on Environmental Quality
State Capitol, Room 2205
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Senator Member Allen:

**SUPPORT AND AMEND – ASSEMBLY BILL 729 (CHU) AS AMENDED ON
APRIL 10, 2019 – CARPET RECYCLING: CARPET STEWARDSHIP**

The Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/Integrated Waste Management Task Force (Task Force) **supports** Assembly Bill 729 (AB 729), as amended on April 10, 2019, and **suggests amending it** as indicated in this letter. If enacted, the proposed legislation, among other things, would require a stewardship organization to include in the carpet stewardship plan a contingency plan should the carpet stewardship plan expire without approval of a new carpet stewardship plan or should the carpet stewardship plan be revoked.

The bill would also require a carpet stewardship organization to set up a trust fund or an escrow account, into which the bill would require the organization to deposit sufficient funds to implement the programs in the carpet stewardship plan for a period of one year, in the event that the carpet stewardship plan terminates or is revoked. The bill would require the trustee or escrow agent to make payments from the trust fund or escrow account as the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) directs, to implement the most recently approved carpet stewardship plan. The bill would authorize CalRecycle, if a new carpet stewardship plan has not been approved within one year after termination or revocation, to make modifications to the previously approved plan, as it deems necessary, and continue to direct payments from the trust fund or escrow account to implement the modified plan. This bill would also authorize CalRecycle to administratively impose civil penalties on any person who is in violation of any provision of the carpet stewardship laws, of up to \$10,000 per day.

While the Task Force is strongly in support of AB 729, it would respectfully request that the proposed legislation be amended to include the following:

- Require that there is only one Stewardship Organization for Carpet Recycling financial feasibility.
- Require a Stewardship Organization to include California Board Members, and

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- Revise the carpet stewardship assessment fee structure by the imposition of visual modulated fees based on the recyclability of the carpet materials.

Again, the Task Force strongly supports the proposed legislation because it would provide for ongoing stewardship in the event that there is no approved plan, it maintains a compliant program and communicates a course of action to stakeholders and the public.

Pursuant to Chapter 3.67 of the Los Angeles County Code and the California Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989 (Assembly Bill 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 729, 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, City of Rosemead

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cc: Assembly Member Chu
Each Member and staff of the Senate Committee on Environmental Quality
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