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LOS ANGELES COUNTY
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE/
INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT TASK FORCE
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August 16, 2021

The Honorable Anthony J. Portantino, Chair
Senate Committee on Appropriations
State Capitol, Room 2206
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Senator Portantino:

SUPPORT – ASSEMBLY BILL 1201 (TING, FRIEDMAN, LORENA GONZALEZ, AND MATHIS) AS AMENDED ON JUNE 23, 2021 – SOLID WASTE: PLASTIC PRODUCTS: LABELING: COMPOSTABILITY AND BIODEGRADABILITY

The Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/Integrated Waste Management Task Force (Task Force) **SUPPORTS** Assembly Bill 1201 (AB 1201), as amended on June 23, 2021.

The proposed legislation, if enacted, would prohibit selling a plastic product that is labeled with the term "compostable," or "home compostable," unless the product meets specified standards and satisfies specified criteria. Additionally, would prohibit the labeled of a plastic product offered for sale as "biodegradable," "degradable," or "decomposable," unless the plastic product meets specified standards relating to environmental marketing claims. The bill would authorize the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) to adopt regulations for plastic product labeling to ensure that plastic products labeled "compostable" or "home compostable" are clearly distinguishable from non-compostable products upon quick inspection by consumers and solid waste processing facilities and may include requirements that plastic products are not designed, pigmented, or advertised in a manner that is misleading to consumers.

The bill would require a person that sells or offers for sale a plastic product in the state to have certification from the Biodegradable Products Institute, Compost Manufacturing Alliance, or another third-party certification entity that is approved by the CalRecycle for meeting compostability and toxicity standards. Additionally, a plastic product must, on and after January 1, 2026, be an allowable organic input under the requirements of the National Organic Program and the Department of Food and Agriculture's Organic Input Material Program; and further must not include intentionally added perfluoroalkyl or polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS).

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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 1201. 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
Council Member, City of Rosemead

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cc: Assembly Member Friedman
Assembly Member Lorena Gonzalez
Assembly Member Mathis
Assembly Member Ting
Each Member and staff of the Senate 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
Fesia A. Davenport, Los Angeles County Chief Executive Officer
Gateway Cities Council of Governments
San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments
South Bay 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 the County of Los Angeles
Each Member of the Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/
Integrated Waste Management Task Force