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LOS ANGELES COUNTY  
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE/  
INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT TASK FORCE  
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August 24, 2021

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

Dear Senator Portantino:

**OPPOSE UNLESS AMENDED - ASSEMBLY BILL 1276 (CARRILLO AND LORENA GONZALEZ) AS AMENDED ON AUGUST 16, 2021 – SINGLE-USE FOODWARE ACCESSORIES AND STANDARD CONDIMENTS**

The Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/Integrated Waste Management Task Force (Task Force) **opposes** Assembly Bill 1276 (AB 1276), as amended on August 16, 2021 **unless amended** to include the recommendations in this letter.

If enacted, the proposed legislation would revise and expand the prohibition on food service facilities from distributing single-use plastic straws to any single-use foodware accessories or standard condiments unless it is requested by a consumer. A food facility may ask a drive-through consumer, or a food facility located within a public airport to ask a walk-through consumer, if the consumer wants a single-use foodware accessory if necessary for the consumer to consume ready-to-eat food, or to prevent spills of or safely transport ready-to-eat food. The bill would exclude correctional institutions, health care facilities, residential care facilities, and public and private school cafeterias from these requirements.

The bill states that the requirement to provide single-use foodware accessories and standard condiments only upon request does not prevent a local government from adopting or implementing an ordinance or rule that would further restrict a food facility, platform, or full-service restaurant from providing single-use food accessories to a consumer. However, the bill fails to consider the fact that the proposal would increase waste generated from the additional packaging needed for foodware and condiments which would be required if the proposed bill is enacted.

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AB 1276 specifies that on or before June 1, 2022, local governments are required to authorize an enforcement agency to enforce the bill's requirements. The bill establishes that the first and second violations of this chapter result in a notice of violation, and any subsequent violations constitute infractions punishable by a fine of \$25 for each day of violation, not to exceed \$300 annually.

While the Task Force agrees the bill would reduce single-use plastic waste, it opposes the bill because it will increase packaging. Furthermore, the Task Force opposes the bill unless it is **amended to include** language requiring the State to be responsible for management of additional waste resulting from the enactment of the bill. The Task Force strongly believes that funding for the bill's enforcement requirements by local governments must be provided by State. Local governments often do not have the additional capacity for unfunded state mandates. Implementation of the requirements would be inadequately supported, prescribing failure of implementation of the law. The state ought to adequately fund requirements it imposes on local governments.

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.

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Based on the foregoing, the Task Force **opposes** AB 1276 **unless amended** to include the recommendations in this letter. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Mike Mohajer, a member of the Task Force, at [MikeMohajer@yahoo.com](mailto: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 Bryan  
Assembly Member Carrillo  
Assembly Member Friedman  
Assembly Member Lorena Gonzalez  
Assembly Member Muratsuchi  
Assembly Member Luz Rivas  
Assembly Member Stone  
Assembly Member Ting  
Senator Allen  
Senator Skinner  
Senator Wiener  
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