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LOS ANGELES COUNTY  
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE/  
INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT TASK FORCE  
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July 6, 2006

The Honorable Arnold Schwarzenegger  
Governor of the State of California  
State Capitol Building  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Governor Schwarzenegger:

**SENATE BILL 1305 (ENROLLED JUNE 28, 2006)  
THE MEDICAL WASTE MANAGEMENT ACT**

The Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/Integrated Waste Management Task Force (Task Force) **supports** Senate Bill 1305 (SB 1305). SB 1305 would prohibit a person from knowingly placing home-generated sharps in commercial and residential solid waste collection containers after September 1, 2008.

Pursuant to Chapter 3.67 of the Los Angeles County Code and the California Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989 (Assembly Bill 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 its 88 cities in Los Angeles County with an overall population in excess of 10 million. Consistent with these responsibilities and to ensure a coordinated and cost-effective 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.

Currently, State law does not address proper management of sharps (e.g., syringes) generated by residents. In order to protect solid waste workers and children, residents are currently encouraged to take their home-generated sharps to a health care facility for proper disposal, or place them in a sealed plastic or metal container. However, home-generated sharps continue to be disposed in residential trash bins. SB 1305 would prohibit residents from knowingly placing home-generated sharps in their trash, recycling, or green waste containers. Instead, residents would be required to transport/mail-back their sharps to an approved facility utilizing an approved sharps container. By prohibiting the disposal of sharps in regular trash containers, SB 1305 keeps sharps out of the solid waste stream,

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thus protecting downstream workers from possible injuries or illness caused by contact with sharps.

Therefore, the Task Force **supports** SB 1305. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Mike Mohajer of the Task Force at (909) 592-1147.

Sincerely,

*Margaret Clark*

Margaret Clark, Vice-Chair  
Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee  
Integrated Waste Management Task Force and  
Councilmember, City of Rosemead

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cc: Senate President Pro Tem Don Perata  
Assembly Speaker Fabian Nuñez  
Senator Liz Figueroa  
Each Member of the Los Angeles County Legislative Delegation  
Each Member of the County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors  
Each City Mayor in the County of Los Angeles  
California State Association of Counties  
League of California Cities  
League of California Cities, Los Angeles County Division  
Gateway Cities Council of Governments  
San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments  
South Bay Cities Council of Governments  
Each Member of the Los Angeles County Integrated Waste Management Task Force