August 29, 2006

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

Dear Governor Schwarzenegger:

ASSEMBLY BILL 1980 (ENROLLED AUGUST 23, 2006)
ILLEGAL DUMPING ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS

The Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/Integrated Waste Management Task Force (Task Force) recommends your signature on Assembly Bill 1980, related to illegal dumping enforcement officers.

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 a combined 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.

Illegal dumping poses a threat to public health and safety, reduces the quality of life, lowers property values, and harms the environment. For many years, local governments have worked hard with few resources to reduce the occurrence of illegal dumping. Enforcement and prosecution is a key tool in preventing and deterring future incidences of illegal dumping. Assembly Bill 1980, if enacted and in conjunction with Assembly Bill 1688, would define who is qualified to be an illegal dumping enforcement officer, and grant them the powers of arrest to the extent necessary to enforce laws related to illegal dumping or littering.
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Therefore the Task Force recommends your signature on Assembly Bill 1980. 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

cc: 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