



GAIL FARBER, CHAIR
MARGARET CLARK, VICE - CHAIR

LOS ANGELES COUNTY
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE/
INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT TASK FORCE
900 SOUTH FREMONT AVENUE, ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA 91803-1331
P.O. BOX 1460, ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA 91802-1460
www.lacountyiswmtf.org

September 10, 2012

The Honorable Edmund G. Brown, Jr.
Governor, State of California
State Capitol Building
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Governor Brown:

SIGNATURE REQUEST - SENATE BILL 1219 (WOLK)
RECYCLING: PLASTIC BAGS

The Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/Integrated Waste Management Task Force (Task Force) **respectfully requests your signature on Senate Bill 1219** (SB 1219).

Assembly Bill 2449 (AB 2449, Chapter 845 of the 2006 State Statutes) established requirements for certain large supermarkets and pharmacies in the State to establish an at store recycling program for single use plastic bags and other film plastics, as well as promote the use of reusable bags. In addition, AB 2449 preempted local governments from placing fees on single use plastic carryout bags. As a result, jurisdictions wishing to curtail single use plastic carryout bags have imposed local bag bans since single use plastic carryout bags are disproportionately more likely to end up as litter where they clog storm drains, harm wildlife, increase clean-up costs of local governments, and cause blight.

SB 1219 extends the sunset of the at-store recycling program for plastic carryout bags from January 1, 2013, to January 1, 2020. Although a modest number of plastic carryout bags are recycled through this program, the program provides an important outlet for the collection and recycling of other types of film plastics, which are typically not recycled in curbside recycling programs, therefore it is important to extend the program. In addition, SB 1219 repeals the preemption on local governments from adopting regulations governing the implementation of at-store recycling programs and/or imposing fees on single use plastic carryout bags, resulting in a greater flexibility to local governments in furthering their recycling efforts.

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As provided by Assembly Bill 939 (AB 939, 1989) and Chapter 3.67 of the Los Angeles County Code, the Task Force is responsible for coordinating the development of major solid waste planning documents for Los Angeles County and the 88 cities in the County with a population of over ten million. The Task Force also addresses issues impacting the solid waste management system on a countywide basis.

For the foregoing reasons, the Task Force respectfully requests your signature on SB 1219. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Mike Mohajer of the Task Force at MikeMohajer@yahoo.com or (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

CM:ts

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cc: David Lanier, Office of Governor Brown
Martha Guzman-Aceves, Office of Governor Brown
San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments
South Bay Cities Council of Governments
San Fernando Valley 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 Member of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors
Each Member of the Los Angeles County Integrated Waste Management Task Force