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LOS ANGELES COUNTY
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE/
INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT TASK FORCE
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September 1, 2011

***** FLOOR ALERT – YES on SB 568 *****

To: Members, California State Assembly

From: Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/
Integrated Waste Management Task Force

Re: **SUPPORT SENATE BILL 568**

The Los Angeles County Integrated Waste Management Task Force SUPPORTS SB 568 since:

- **It will result in significant litter abatement and cost savings for local agencies.** Expanded polystyrene, commonly known as Styrofoam (EPS) food containers disproportionately contribute in the costs to local government for litter prevention, cleanup, and disposal. Several jurisdictions within the County of Los Angeles have already restricted the use of EPS food containers at municipal operations and/or retail food establishments including the County of Los Angeles as well as the Cities of Los Angeles, Malibu, Santa Monica and West Hollywood. This is in addition to over 40 other jurisdictions across California that have taken similar action.
- **It simultaneously reduces the environmental impact of EPS containers, and stimulates the market for alternative materials.** If enacted, SB 568 would have multiple benefits including establishing uniform policy Statewide rather than piecemeal restrictions in different jurisdictions and significantly reducing the instance of one of the most abundant types of litter. Although EPS makes up less than 1% of the waste stream, litter studies have found it makes up as much as 15% of the litter stream. Local governments are facing increasing costs to manage litter including zero trash Total Maximum Daily Load requirements in our rivers and waterways that may cost billions of dollars to comply with.

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 (pursuant to Chapter 3.67 of the Los Angeles County Code and the California Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989). Consistent with these responsibilities and to ensure a coordinated solid waste management system in Los Angeles County, the Task Force addresses issues impacting the system on a countywide basis. Task Force membership includes the League of California Cities-Los Angeles County Division, County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors, City of Los Angeles, the waste management industry, environmental groups, the public, and other governmental agencies.

For these reasons, the **Task Force supports SB 568 and respectfully requests your YAY vote on the bill.** If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Mike Mohajer of the Task Force at (909) 592-1147 or mikemohajer@yahoo.com.