



LOS ANGELES COUNTY
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE/
INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT TASK FORCE
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DONALD L. WOLFE
CHAIRMAN

June 11, 2007

The Honorable John Benoit
State Capitol Room 4144
Sacramento, CA 94249-0064

Dear Assembly Member Benoit:

**ASSEMBLY BILL 679 (AMENDED MAY 8, 2007)
ILLEGAL DUMPING COST RECOVERY**

The Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/Integrated Waste Management Task Force (Task Force) **supports** Assembly Bill 679 (AB 679), which would require illegal dumpers to pay the actual costs incurred by cities and counties for cleaning up illegally dumped materials.

Pursuant to Chapter 3.67 of the Los Angeles County Code and the California Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989 (AB 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 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, the County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors, the City of Los Angeles, the 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 quality of life, lowers property values, and harms the environment. In addition, illegal dumping creates a major economic burden on local governments, which bear the burden of clean up and deterring illegal dumping.

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Assembly Bill 679, if enacted, would provide local government with an additional tool to combat illegal dumping by charging illegal dumpers with a civil assessment equal to the actual cleanup costs incurred, in addition to any other fines or fees related to illegal dumping/littering activities. Furthermore, funds from the civil assessment would be deposited directly into the local jurisdiction's general fund for illegal dumping cleanup and enforcement efforts.

Therefore the Task Force **supports** AB 679. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Mike Mohajer of the Task Force 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

SK/CS:cw

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cc: Assembly Speaker Fabian Núñez
Each Member of the Senate Public Safety Committee
Each Member of the Los Angeles County Legislative Delegation
California Integrated Waste Management Board
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
Southern California Association of Governments
Solid Waste Association of North America
San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments
South Bay Cities Council of Governments
Each City Recycling Coordinator in Los Angeles County
Each Member of the Los Angeles County Integrated Waste Management Task Force