



SWANA[®]
SOLID WASTE ASSOCIATION
of North America

CALIFORNIA CHAPTERS

FOUNDING

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LEGISLATIVE TASK FORCE

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May 13, 2015

The Honorable Bill Monning
California State Senate
State Capitol, Room 313
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: SB 489 (Monning) – Hazardous Waste: Photovoltaic Modules
SUPPORT**

Dear Senator Monning,

The California Chapters of the Solid Waste Association of North America (SWANA) represent much of the publicly-owned and -operated solid waste management infrastructure in the state and the local governments responsible for implementing waste diversion and recycling programs. The SWANA Legislative Task Force (LTF) represents the California Chapters on legislative and regulatory issues.

The SWANA LTF is pleased **SUPPORT** your **SB 489**, which would allow local jurisdictions to manage photovoltaic modules used to produce solar energy as universal waste. This will result in a more efficient and effective paradigm for managing solar panels. The LTF thanks you for taking amendments to remove the disposal ban from SB 489, as our support was contingent on that action.

The SWANA LTF agrees that it is time for the Legislature to address the increasing presence of photovoltaic modules in the waste stream. SWANA is supportive of granting authority to DTSC to designate photovoltaic modules as universal waste. This would allow local governments to utilize existing e-waste infrastructure to process photovoltaic modules, while at the same time encouraging the industry to design photovoltaic modules for extended life, repair and reuse, prior to end-of-life management.

The SWANA LTF believes that granting DTSC the authority to designate photovoltaic modules as universal or hazardous waste is a positive step forward. Accordingly, we are pleased to **SUPPORT** SB 489 as amended to remove the disposal ban.

Sincerely,

Jason Schmelzer
SWANA Legislative Advocate