



## CALIFORNIA CHAPTERS

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July 14, 2016

The Honorable Lorena Gonzalez  
Chair, Assembly Appropriations Committee  
State Capitol, Room 2214  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: SB 423 (Bates) – Consumer product waste: management– SUPPORT**

Dear Chair Gonzalez,

The Solid Waste Association of North America (SWANA) is the world's largest association of solid waste professionals (over 8,000 members). SWANA's California chapters represent more than 900 members. SWANA is committed to advancing the practice of environmentally- and economically-sound management of municipal solid waste. SWANA's California Legislative Task Force (LTF) is responsible for representing the California Chapters on legislative and regulatory issues.

SWANA is pleased to **SUPPORT SB 423**, which would exempt non-prescription pharmaceutical products from the Medical Waste Management Act (MWMA). Specifically, the bill would require the Department of Toxic Substances Control to convene a Retail Waste Working Group to consider and make recommendations regarding regulatory and policy requirements for managing consumer products, and adopt recommendations for waste reduction opportunities. By March 1, 2017, the working group would be required to identify a list of issues for discussion and resolution, and would need to report the consensus recommendations to the Legislature by June 1, 2017.

While SWANA is supportive of the framework laid out in **SB 423**, we are working with the author's office to discuss a minor modification that would ensure local governments have a significant role in the process set forth by this bill, as they are tasked with weighty responsibility within the waste management system.

**SB 423** will help California address its outstanding waste management issues. For these reasons and more, SWANA is pleased to **SUPPORT SB 423**. Thank you for your consideration of this important measure.

Sincerely,

Jason Schmelzer  
SWANA Legislative Advocate

Cc: Members and Consultants, Assembly Appropriations Committee