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February 22, 2016

The Honorable Ben Allen
California State Senate
State Capitol, Room 2054
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SB 778 (Allen) – Automotive repair: oil changes: notification to Customers – SUPPORT

Dear Senator Allen,

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 778**, which would require an automotive repair dealer to notify a customer purchasing an oil change of the recommended oil drain interval, oil grade, and viscosity specified in the maintenance schedule of the vehicle's owner's manual. The bill would also require an automotive repair dealer to use the oil change interval specified in the vehicle's owner's manual when recommending the date or mileage for the next oil change, information which is easily accessible on CalRecycle's and most automakers' websites.

Oil technology has changed tremendously over the last several decades. Depending on the vehicle, oil change interval requirements vary significantly. While at least 10 million Californians hold the preconceived notion that all cars need the oil changed every 3,000 miles, many cars today require a minimum oil change of every 5,000 to 7,500 miles, some recommendations even reaching 10,000 or 15,000 miles. According to CalRecycle, changing motor oil based on the manufacturer's specifications would reduce motor oil demand in our State by about 10 million gallons per year. When improperly disposed of, used motor oil is considered hazardous waste, and can result in many harmful ecological and environmental effects, such as fouled water and dangerous air pollution.

SB 778 will eliminate unnecessary costs for consumers and reduce hazardous waste in our environment. Simply following automakers' oil change recommendations based on vehicle make and model will have important public health and environmental benefits. For these reasons and more, SWANA is pleased to **support SB 778**. Thank you for authoring this commonsense measure.

Sincerely,

Jason Schmelzer
SWANA Legislative Advocate