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September 7, 2016

The Honorable Jerry Brown
Governor, State of California
State Capitol, Governor's Office
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SB 778 (Allen) – Automotive repair: oil changes: notification to customers – Request for Signature

Dear Governor Brown,

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 provide for the registration and regulation of automotive maintenance providers in a manner similar to automotive repair dealers. The bill would require automotive maintenance providers to recommend to customers the date or mileage for the next oil change to follow the oil drain interval specified in the vehicle manufacturer's published maintenance schedule. Information about how often a consumer should change oil based on the make, model, and year of the car is easily accessible on CalRecycle's and most automakers' websites. If an automotive maintenance provider recommends a date or mileage for an oil drain interval that deviates from the manufacturer's published maintenance schedule, the basis must be noted on the final invoice.

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 help 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**, and respectfully requests that you SIGN this bill when it comes before your desk. Thank you for your consideration of this commonsense measure.

Sincerely,

Jason Schmelzer
SWANA Legislative Advocate

Cc: The Honorable Ben Allen, 26th Senate District