



May 4, 2017

The Honorable Marc Berman  
California State Assembly, 24<sup>th</sup> District  
State Capitol, Room 6011  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: AB 1294 (Berman) Solid waste: plastic products – SUPPORT**

Dear Assembly Member Berman,

On behalf of the California Chapters of the Solid Waste Association of North America's (SWANA) Legislative Task Force (LTF), I am pleased to write to you in **SUPPORT** of **AB 1294 (Berman)**, which will extend indefinitely current California law regarding truth in marketing for plastic food container products.

SWANA is the world's largest association of solid waste professionals (7,700 members). SWANA's California chapters represent more than 900 members. SWANA represents 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 LTF is responsible for representing the California Chapters on legislative and regulatory issues. SWANA is committed to advancing the practice of environmentally- and economically-sound management of municipal solid waste.

Existing law requires manufacturers of plastic food containers to verify their recycled content claims upon request by an agency or member of the public. **AB 1294 (Berman)** extends this documentation requirement for recycled content claims. This bill does not establish a new requirement, but rather extends existing rules to ensure continued compliance and enforcement of claims made by plastic food container manufacturers.

This bill will help consumers make informed purchasing decisions and will indirectly help contribute to increased recycling rates as California works to achieve the statewide 75% recycling mandate by 2020. For these reasons and more, the SWANA LTF is pleased to **SUPPORT AB 1294 (Berman)**. Thank you for authoring this important measure.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jason Schmelzer". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jason Schmelzer  
Partner  
Shaw / Yoder / Antwih, Inc.

LEGISLATIVE ADVOCATES

Jason Schmelzer and Melissa Immel

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