



June 5, 2017

The Honorable Bob Wieckowski
Chair, Senate Environmental Quality Committee
State Capitol, Room 6011
Sacramento, CA 95814

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

Dear Chair Wieckowski,

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 your consideration of this important measure.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jason Schmelzer". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Jason Schmelzer
Partner
Shaw / Yoder / Antwih, Inc.

Cc: Members and Consultants, Senate Environmental Quality Committee
The Honorable Marc Berman, 24th Assembly District

LEGISLATIVE ADVOCATES

Jason Schmelzer and Melissa Immel

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