



May 1, 2017

The Honorable Ricardo Lara
Chair, Senate Appropriations Committee
State Capitol, Room 5050
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SB 705 (Allen) Solid waste: food service containers– SUPPORT

Dear Chair Lara,

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 **SB 705 (Allen)**, which will prohibit food providers from using disposable food containers that are not recyclable or compostable.

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.

As you may know, the food service industry heavily utilizes containers made of polystyrene or polystyrene foam (commonly known as Styrofoam) that is not recyclable or compostable. Polystyrene debris winds up in our landfills, waterways, and oceans and poses significant financial and health costs to the environment, local governments, and our communities. Recyclable alternatives are comparably priced and provide growing employment opportunities in comparison to polystyrene food packaging.

The state has set ambitious recycling goals, including a statewide target of 75% recycling, composting, or source reduction of solid waste by 2020. **SB 705 (Allen)** will help California in our efforts to achieve this lofty goal.

For these reasons and more, the SWANA LTF is pleased to **SUPPORT SB 705 (Allen)**. Thank you for your consideration of this important measure.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Jason Schmelzer". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being the most prominent.

Jason Schmelzer
Partner
Shaw / Yoder / Antwih, Inc.

Cc: Members and Consultants, Senate Appropriations Committee
The Honorable Ben Allen, 26th Senate District

LEGISLATIVE ADVOCATES

Jason Schmelzer and Melissa Immel

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