



SWANA[®]

SOLID WASTE ASSOCIATION
of North America

CALIFORNIA CHAPTERS

FOUNDING

SIERRA

GOLDRUSH

LEGISLATIVE TASK FORCE

www.swanacal-leg.org

LEGISLATIVE ADVOCATE

PAUL J. YODER

Shaw/Yoder, Inc.

1415 L Street, Suite 200

Sacramento, CA 95814

(916) 446-4656

FAX (916) 446-4318

paul@shawyoder.org

CHAIR

R. SCOTT JOHNSTON

Merced County DPW

Solid Waste Division

2222 M Street, Room 206

Merced, CA 95340

(209) 385-7388

lrsj@co.merced.ca.us

VICE CHAIR

GRACE CHAN

LA County Sanitation Districts

1955 Workman Mill Road

Whittier, CA 90601

(562) 699-7411 ext. 2402

gchan@lacsdsd.org

TREASURER

JOHN B. ABERNETHY

Sacramento County

9850 Goethe Road

Sacramento, CA 95827

(916) 875-4527

abernethyj@SacCounty.net

SECRETARY

MARK URQUHART P.E.

Shaw Environmental

& Infrastructure

1326 North Market Boulevard

Sacramento, CA 95834

(530) 626-4771

Mark.Urquhart@shawgrp.com

June 14, 2007

The Honorable Mark DeSaulnier
State Capitol Building, Room 4162
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: AB 1023 (DeSaulnier) - Recycling: compostable and biodegradable plastic trash bags - Support

Dear Assembly member DeSaulnier,

The Solid Waste Association of North America (SWANA) is composed of approximately 7000 public and private sector solid waste management professionals throughout North America dedicated to the development and enhancement of environmentally and economically sound practices and policies for the integrated management of municipal solid waste. There are approximately 900 members of SWANA in California, and on their behalf I am writing in support of your AB 1023, regarding the recycling of compostable and biodegradable plastic trash bags.

AB 1023 would exempt manufacturers of compostable and biodegradable trash bags from California's recycled-content requirements for plastic trash bags. In part to address the issue of contamination, some trash bag manufacturers have begun to market compostable or biodegradable trash bags for use as yard waste bags. Because of the degradable nature of these bags, they are incompatible with conventional recycled plastic.

For these reasons, the California Chapters of SWANA support this measure.

Sincerely,

Paul J. Yoder
Legislative Advocate
SWANA, California Chapters