



SWANA[®]
 SOLID WASTE ASSOCIATION
 of North America

April 10, 2013

CALIFORNIA CHAPTERS

FOUNDING

SIERRA

GOLDRUSH

LEGISLATIVE TASK FORCE

www.swanacal-leg.org

The Honorable Travis Allen
 California State Assembly
 State Capitol, Room 5126
 Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 1337 (Allen) – Local Bag Ordinance Prohibition
OPPOSE

Dear Assemblyman Allen,

The Solid Waste Association of North America (SWANA) is the world's largest association of solid waste professionals (7700 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 respectfully **OPPOSED** to your **AB 1337**, which would prohibit local jurisdictions from adopting, implementing or enforcing any ordinance, resolution, or regulation that would prohibit businesses from offering single-use carryout bags and/or imposing a fee or tax on an establishment that provides these bags..

The environmental impact of single-use carryout bags is well documented. Plastic bags take centuries to break down in the environment and represent a meaningful proportion of marine debris. Paper bags – whether from grocery stores, convenience stores, restaurants, or other sources – are much more easily recycled than plastic bags but are themselves a source of litter in our communities.

Nearly 70 local communities (cities and counties) have passed ordinances to deal with the problems created by single use carryout bags. These communities have made great progress in mitigating the environmental consequences of bag pollution, and SWANA is opposed to any legislation that would roll back the clock on those important gains.

Sincerely,

Jason Schmelzer
 SWANA Legislative Advocate

Cc: The Honorable Wesley Chesbro, Chair, Assembly Natural Resources Committee
 The Honorable Members of the Assembly Natural Resources Committee

LEGISLATIVE ADVOCATES

PAUL J. YODER

JASON SCHMELZER

Shaw/Yoder/Antwih, inc.

1415 L Street, Suite 1000

Sacramento, CA 95814

(916) 446-4656

FAX (916) 446-4316

paul@shawyoderantwih.com

jason@shawyoderantwih.com

CHAIR

LISA WOOD

CITY OF SAN DIEGO

9601 Ridgehaven Court #210

San Diego, CA 92123

lwood@sandiego.gov

VICE CHAIR

NANCY L. EWERT, PE.

KERN COUNTY

2700 M Street, Suite 500

Bakersfield, CA 93301

nancye@co.kern.ca.us

TREASURER

MARK BOWERS

CITY OF SUNNYVALE

456 W. Olive Ave

PO Box 3707

Sunnyvale, CA 94088

mbowers@ci.sunnyvale.ca.us

SECRETARY

MARK URQUHART, PE.

Senior Project Manager

HDR ENGINEERING, INC

2365 Iron Point Rd. #300

Folsom, CA 95630

(916) 817-4933

Mark.Urquhart@hdrinc.com

