



SWANA[®]
SOLID WASTE ASSOCIATION
of North America

CALIFORNIA CHAPTERS

FOUNDING

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GOLDRUSH

LEGISLATIVE TASK FORCE

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March 29, 2006

The Honorable Loni Hancock
Chair, Assembly Natural Resources Committee
1020 N Street, Room 164
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: AB 1866 (Karnette) Recycling: Polystyrene: State Facilities
– SUPPORT IN CONCEPT**

Dear Assemblywoman Hancock,

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 to urge you to support AB 1866 (Karnette), regarding recycling of polystyrene in state facilities.

This bill would prohibit state facilities from selling, possessing or distributing expanded polystyrene (EPS) food containers.

SWANA supports the intent of this bill, which is to decrease the state's use of materials that are not made of recyclable material; we would, however, like to see the Legislature take further action. Since it has already been determined that polystyrene is non-recyclable and generally detrimental to the environment, this legislation should also contain provisions to limit and possibly prohibit the further production of these materials. SWANA has long encouraged and supported provisions mandating manufacturer responsibility. Particularly because alternative products are available, the production of polystyrene containers should be phased-out.

For these reasons, the California Chapters of SWANA support AB 1866 in concept. Thank you for your consideration of our position.

Sincerely,

Yvette Gomez Agredano
Legislative Advocate
SWANA, California Chapters

cc: Members, Assembly Natural Resources Committee
The Honorable Betty Karnette
Consultants, Assembly Natural Resources Committee
R. Scott Johnston, Chair, SWANA California Chapters Legislative Task Force
Mark Urquhart, Secretary, SWANA California Chapters Legislative Task Force