



SWANA[®]
SOLID WASTE ASSOCIATION
of North America

CALIFORNIA CHAPTERS

FOUNDING

SIERRA

GOLD RUSH

LEGISLATIVE TASK FORCE

www.swanacal-leg.org

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

NANCY L. EWERT, P.E.

KERN COUNTY

2700 M Street, Suite 500

Bakersfield, CA 93301

nancye@co.kern.ca.us

VICE CHAIR

MARK BOWERS

CITY OF SUNNYVALE

PO Box 3707

Sunnyvale, CA 94088

mbowers@sunnyvale.ca.gov

TREASURER

GLENN ACOSTA, P.E.

Sanitation Districts of

Los Angeles County

1955 Workman Mill Road

Whittier, CA 90601

(562) 908-4288

GAcosta@lacsdc.org

SECRETARY

MARK J. URQUHART, P.E.

2741 Fairover Drive

Placerville, CA 95667

(530) 626-4771

March 21, 2014

The Honorable Das Williams
California State Assembly
State Capitol, Room 4005
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Lou Correa
California State Senate
State Capitol, Room 5061
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: AB 2284 (Williams & Correa) – Primary Battery Recycling Act
SUPPORT**

Dear Assemblymembers Williams and Correa,

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.

The SWANA LTF is pleased to **SUPPORT** your **AB 2284**, which would require producers of primary batteries to create, finance, and manage a collection system to safely and conveniently take batteries back from consumers at the end of their useful life. Batteries, which have been banned from disposal in California because of environmental impacts since 2006, are currently being recycled at an extremely low rate and a high cost to local governments.

The SWANA LTF supports product stewardship for products that have problematic end-of-life impacts, whether fiscal or environmental. AB 2284 does not "shift" costs away from local governments to producers. That presupposes that local governments have inherent responsibility to manage the end-of-life impacts of every product, no matter how burdensome. AB 2284 simply asks battery producers to contribute to mitigating the end-of-life impacts of their product.

Current law requires retailers to take rechargeable batteries back from consumers; however, primary batteries account for 80% of sales. According to one report, over 150 million batteries are sold in California each year. AB 2284, which is legislation build on compromise between manufacturers and local governments, will dramatically increase the recycling rate for primary batteries in California.

For these reasons, the SWANA LTF is please to **SUPPORT AB 2284**.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jason Schmelzer". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'J'.

Jason Schmelzer
SWANA Legislative Advocate

cc. Assemblyman Chesbro – Chair, Assembly Natural Resources Committee