



SWANA[®]

SOLID WASTE ASSOCIATION
of North America

CALIFORNIA CHAPTERS

FOUNDING

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LEGISLATIVE TASK FORCE

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May 6, 2008

The Honorable Mark Leno
Chair, Assembly Appropriations Committee
State Capitol Building, Room 2144
Sacramento, CA 95814

**Re: AB 2640 (Huffman)-Solid Waste: Compostable Organics
Management - OPPOSE**

Dear Chair Leno,

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 regretfully OPPOSE AB 2640.

We would like to thank the author for addressing one of our concerns with the recent amendments to remove the phase out of ADC diversion credit language from the bill; however, AB 2640 still would impose a \$1.40 per ton quarterly fee on green waste used for beneficial reuse, including use as alternative daily cover, at solid waste disposal facilities. This tax on the reuse of one type of waste material would be unprecedented and inappropriate. Additionally, the California Integrated Waste Management Board's strategic directive in setting a goal of 50% reduction in the amount of the "compostable organics" currently being disposed by year 2020 was not based on any scientific study or through any lifecycle analysis. As such, we cannot see any basis for codifying this goal as a mandate on local governments.

For these reasons, we regretfully must still OPPOSE this measure.

Sincerely,

Paul J. Yoder
Legislative Advocate

cc: The Honorable Jared Huffman
Members and Consultants,
Assembly Appropriations Committee