



SWANA[®]

SOLID WASTE ASSOCIATION
of North America

CALIFORNIA CHAPTERS

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LEGISLATIVE TASK FORCE

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April 13, 2009

The Honorable Nancy Skinner
Chair, Assembly Natural Resources Committee
State Capitol Building, Room 4126
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: AB 283 (Chesbro) Extended Producer Responsibility Program-
SUPPORT IF AMENDED

Dear Chair Skinner,

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 **SUPPORT AB 283 IF AMENDED**, regarding extended producer responsibility

AB 283 would provide a comprehensive Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) Framework which would establish one law to address a wide range of products that end up in California landfills and to shift California's product waste management system from one focused on government-funded and ratepayer-financed waste diversion to one that relies on producer responsibility in order to reduce public costs and drive improvements in product design that promote environmental sustainability. The EPR framework will authorize industries to develop cooperative plans for the management of problem products and remove the financial burden from local governments. These plans would be subject to review and approval by the California Integrated Waste Management Board.

We would like to thank the author and the sponsors of this legislation for their continued efforts in addressing our concerns and only have a few remaining items that we would like addressed through the amendments outlined below:

- I Page 4, line 28 – We suggest **deleting** the sentence that reads: “Disposal of solid waste prevents materials from circulating in the state’s economy in order to produce jobs and new products.”
- II Page 4, Line 35- We suggest **striking out** “recycling” and **inserting** “management of.”
- III Page 4, Line 40- We suggest **inserting** “recoverable” after the word “reusable.”

- IV. Page 6, Lines 32-39 and Page 7 lines 1-2 – We suggest **deleting** this in its entirety. The purpose of this legislation is to address the concept of EPR/Product Stewardships and not the development of additional materials processing capacity
- V. Page 7, line 26- This amendment attempts to define the term “cradle-to-cradle design.” We suggest **inserting** “*based on a formula that includes energy, water, and materials use, greenhouse gas and other air emissions; toxic and hazardous substances; materials recovery and waste disposal; and worker safety*” after the word “beneficial.”
- VI. Page 10, line 9- We suggest **inserting** “*and local government*” after the word “agencies.”
- VII. Page 11, line 4- We suggest **inserting** “*recovered*” after the word “recycled.”

SWANA is very supportive of manufacturer responsibility. Without producer responsibility local solid waste managers are in receipt of and must dispose of various hazardous materials causing local governments to bear the cost of disposal.

For these reasons, the California Chapters of SWANA SUPPORT IF AMENDED AB 283 (Chesbro).

Sincerely,



Paul J. Yoder
Legislative Advocate

Cc: Members and Consultants, Assembly Natural Resources Committee
The Honorable Wesley Chesbro