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SOLID WASTE ASSOCIATION
of North America

CALIFORNIA CHAPTERS

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LEGISLATIVE TASK FORCE

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July 6, 2005

The Honorable Alan Lowenthal
Chair, Senate Environmental Quality
State Capitol Building, Room 2205
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 338 (Levine) Recycling: crumb rubber – SUPPORT

Dear Senator Lowenthal,

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 in support of AB 338 (Levine), as amended June 30, 2005.

AB 338 would require the Department of Transportation to require the use of asphalt containing crumb rubber generated in the United States in lieu of other materials to the maximum extent feasible in State highway construction or repair projects that use asphalt, but not less than 15% of these projects. Under this bill, the use of asphalt containing crumb rubber for a particular project is not required if its use does not meet project engineering standards and specifications.

By the year 2020, more than 43,000,000 scrap tires will be generated each year in the state of California. Currently, twenty-five percent of California scrap tires, more than 8,000,000 tires, are disposed of in landfills or stockpiled in legal or illegal dumps. The California Chapters of SWANA believe that AB 338 creates a viable alternative to such practices by using the crumb rubber from recycled scrap tires as an additive for making asphalt for highway construction and repair.

AB 338 (Levine) provides a solution for the scrap tire epidemic that will only worsen, if action is not taken immediately. For these reasons, the California Chapters of SWANA urge you to support AB 338 when it is heard before your committee.

Sincerely,

Yvette Gomez Agredano
Legislative Advocate
SWANA, California Chapters

cc: Members, Senate Environmental Quality Committee
The Honorable Lloyd Levine
Consultants, Senate Environmental Quality Committee
Will Dickinson, Chair, SWANA California Chapters Legislative Task Force
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