



**SWANA**<sup>®</sup>  
**SOLID WASTE ASSOCIATION**  
 of North America

**CALIFORNIA CHAPTERS**

FOUNDING

SIERRA

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April 15, 2011

The Honorable Wesley Chesbro  
 Chair, Assembly Natural Resources Committee  
 1060 N Street, Room 164  
 Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: AB 341 (Chesbro) Solid waste: diversion - OPPOSE**

Dear Chair Chesbro,

The Solid Waste Association of North America (SWANA), the largest association of solid waste professionals (7,700 members), is committed to advancing the practices of environmentally and economically sound management of municipal solid waste. On behalf of their California Chapters, I am writing to **oppose** AB 341 (Chesbro) regarding the diversion of solid waste.

AB 341, if enacted, would require the California Integrated Waste Board to "ensure" that 75 percent of generated solid waste is diverted through source reduction, recycling, or composting by January 1, 2020. The bill also requires local governments to implement commercial recycling programs.

This bill fails to provide the tools needed by local governments to achieve the increased diversion rates and adds another unfunded mandate to cities and counties that are struggling financially to provide for the current needs of their communities. The tools needed by local government to increase diversion include: conversion technology and the need for development of markets (other than those in China, Pacific Rim Countries & India) for recycled & composted materials. Please see the attached "white paper" developed by the SWANA LTF for additional resources needed for local governments to increase the solid waste diversion rate.

For these reasons, SWANA regretfully must **OPPOSE AB 341 (Chesbro)** and will be urging your colleges to vote "no" when it is heard in committee.

Sincerely,

Gressa Wallace  
 Legislative Advocate

Cc: Members and Consultants, Assembly Natural Resources Committee