



SWANA[®]

SOLID WASTE ASSOCIATION
of North America

CALIFORNIA CHAPTERS

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LEGISLATIVE TASK FORCE

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October 4, 2007

The Honorable Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor, State of California
State Capitol Building
Sacramento, CA 95814

**Re: AB 48 (Saldana) – Hazardous Waste: Electronic Devices –
URGE SIGNATURE**

Dear Governor Schwarzenegger,

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 urge you to sign AB 48, regarding hazardous waste relative to electronic devices.

AB 48 would, on or after January 1, 2010, expand the scope of electronic products that would be banned from manufacturing for sale in California if they are banned from sale in the European Union (EU) pursuant to the Reduction of Hazardous Substances (RoHS) directive.

The heavy metals found in electronic devices, are toxic and – when improperly disposed of – pose a serious threat to public health and the environment. Requiring manufacturers to phase out the use of hazardous materials in nearly all consumer electronics sold in the state by January 1, 2010, as proposed in AB 48, would prevent toxins from entry into the municipal solid waste stream. The best way to assist local governments in California in complying with AB 939, and more generally ensuring that hazardous materials do not make their way into landfills or illegal disposal sites, is to ensure that they are never included in products in the first place.

For these reasons, SWANA supports AB 48 and urges your signature on the bill.

Sincerely,

Paul J. Yoder
Legislative Advocate

cc: Assemblywoman Saldana
Chris Kahn, Legislative Secretary, Governor Schwarzenegger
John Moffatt, Legislative Deputy, Governor Schwarzenegger
R. Scott Johnston, Chair, SWANA California Chapters LTF
Mark Urquhart, Secretary, SWANA California Chapters LTF