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SOLID WASTE ASSOCIATION
of North America

CALIFORNIA CHAPTERS

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LEGISLATIVE TASK FORCE

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April 21, 2005

The Honorable Loni Hancock
Chair, Assembly Natural Resources
State Capitol, Room 4126
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Assemblywoman Hancock,

RE: AB 574 (Wolk) Recycled Concrete - SUPPORT

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 574 (Wolk).

AB 574 would authorize the use of recycled concrete as long as the end user has been fully informed that the concrete is recycled concrete. AB 574 also defines exactly what constitutes recycled concrete.

SWANA is supportive of AB 574 because it calls for responsible management of materials which would otherwise be wasted. Concrete is very costly to produce both economically and environmentally. About 300 pounds of CO2 emissions are created in the production of a single ton of cement. Currently, approximately 67% of waste, by weight, from construction sites is from returned concrete. This represents nearly 3% of total production statewide- tons of material each year. Materials used in concrete are already in short supply; this bill would help to ensure that a large portion of them is recycled.

AB 574 would help save resources and money. For these reasons the California Chapters of SWANA urge you to support AB 574 when it is heard before your committee. Thank you for your consideration of our position.

Sincerely,

Yvette Gómez Agredano
Legislative Advocate
SWANA, California Chapters

cc: Other Members, Assembly Natural Resources
Consultant, Assembly Natural Resources
The Honorable Lois Wolk
Will Dickinson, Chair, SWANA California Chapters
Mark Urquhart, Secretary, SWANA California Chapters