



September 11, 2014

The Honorable Edmund G. Brown  
Governor, State of California  
State Capitol  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: AB 1594 (Williams) – Green Waste as Alternative Daily Cover  
NEUTRAL**

**CALIFORNIA CHAPTERS**

FOUNDING

SIERRA

GOLD RUSH

**LEGISLATIVE TASK FORCE**

[www.swanacal-leg.org](http://www.swanacal-leg.org)

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Dear Governor Brown,

The Solid Waste Association of North America (SWANA) is the world's largest association of solid waste professionals (7700 members), many of which are involved in managing or operating recycling centers, material recovery facilities, and landfills. We are committed to advancing the practice of environmentally- and economically-sound management of municipal solid waste. The SWANA Legislative Task Force (LTF) represents the California Chapters on legislative and regulatory issues.

The SWANA LTF is **NEUTRAL** on **AB 1594** as amended in the Senate on June 12, 2014, even though we historically opposed the state's efforts to ban the use or eliminate the diversion credits for curbside green waste used as alternative daily cover at landfills. We strongly believe that curbside green waste repurposed in this manner lessens the amount of virgin soil that has to be imported to cover the refuse at the end of the day, and helps to save landfill capacity.

Stakeholders worked diligently to negotiate a reasonable compromise. We believe this bill balances the need to reduce greenhouse gas emissions with the stark reality of municipalities having to manage waste streams with scarce financial resources and the lack of recycling infrastructure. We strongly supported the 5/27/2014 amendments taken by the Appropriations Committee eliminating application of the disposal fee. The SWANA LTF believes that fees should instead be part a broader discussion of long-term funding needs coupled with a comprehensive review of staffing requirements to support essential programs.

Sincerely,

Jason Schmelzer  
SWANA Legislative Advocate.