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SOLID WASTE ASSOCIATION
of North America

CALIFORNIA CHAPTERS

FOUNDING

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LEGISLATIVE TASK FORCE

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July 19, 2011

The Honorable Felipe Fuentes
Chair, Assembly Appropriations Committee
State Capitol, Room 2114
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SB 568 (Lowenthal) Recycling: polystyrene food containers - SUPPORT

Dear Chair Fuentes,

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 **SUPPORT SB 568 (Lowenthal)** regarding the recycling of polystyrene food containers.

SB 568 would prohibit a food vendor, on and after January 1, 2016, from dispensing prepared food to a customer in a polystyrene foam food container and would define related terms. The bill would provide that a food vendor that is a school district is not required to comply with the bill's requirements until July 1, 2017, and would allow a food vendor that is a school district to dispense prepared food to a customer in a polystyrene foam food container after that date if the governing board of the school district elects to adopt a policy to implement a verifiable recycling program for polystyrene foam food containers. The bill would also allow a food vendor to dispense prepared food to a customer in a polystyrene foam food container after January 1, 2016, in a city or county if the city or county elects to adopt an ordinance establishing a specified recycling program for these types of containers

SB 568 will provide multiple benefits, including establishing uniform policy Statewide rather than varying restrictions in different jurisdictions, and significantly reducing one of the most abundant types of litter.

For these reasons, SWANA **SUPPORTS SB 568 (Lowenthal)** and urges your "aye" when it is heard in committee.

Sincerely,

Tressa Wallace
Legislative Advocate

Cc: Members and Consultants, Assembly Appropriations Committee
The Honorable Alan Lowenthal