

**FINAL APPROVED**  
**SWANA Legislative Task Force Meeting Agenda**  
**Meeting Minutes**

**March 21, 2024**

*9:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.*

*In person and via Zoom*

*Shaw Yoder Antwih Schmelzer & Lange, Inc.*

*1415 L Street, Suite 1000, Sacramento, CA 95814*

[\[Zoom link\]](#)

**Breakfast provided (9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.)**

**1. Administrative Items (9:30 – 9:45 p.m.) Meeting commenced at 9:32 am**

- 1) Roll Call, Introductions

**2. Legislative Review (9:40 a.m. – 11:30am)**

- 1) Background remarks were provided by SYASL lobbyist Priscilla Quiroz. The deadline to amend spot bills is this week, so lots of amendments will be coming through in the near future. The Legislature is trying to deal with budget and address the deficit. Leaders made announcement this week on some of the plans. Next week is Spring Recess, after which policy committee hearings will be held in April.
- 2) See Attachment for positions taken.

**3. Guest Speakers (11:30am-1:00pm)**

- 1) John Kennedy, Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC) – Mr. Kennedy shared information with the LTF about numerous solid waste bills that have been introduced this year. RCRC is sponsoring AB 2902 (Wood), which would address issues related to the implementation of SB 1383, primarily focusing on rural issues.

**4. Lunch provided (1:00pm – 1:30 p.m.)**

**5. Review Commingled Rate Letter (1:30-1:45pm)**

- 1) Attachment
- 2) Californians Against Waste shared a fact sheet and letter to encourage CalRecycle to review and update the curbside reimbursement rate, which hasn't been updated this year to reflect new container types added to the program. CalRecycle doesn't plan to do this until they look at rates for 2025.
- 3) Motioned, seconded and approved that The LTF will sign onto the letter.

LEGISLATIVE ADVOCATE

Priscilla Quiroz

**6. Regulatory Update (1:45p.m. – 2:45 p.m.) – DID NOT DISCUSS THESE ITEMS**

- 1) SB 54 Subcommittee update
- 2) CalRecycle
- 3) CARB
- 4) DTSC

**7. Lobby Day (2:45 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.) -- DID NOT DISCUSS THIS ITEM**

**8. Administrative Items (2:00 – 2:35 p.m.)**

- 1) Approval of February Minutes
  - i. **Motioned, Seconded and Approved February 2024 minutes**
- 2) Approval of February Treasurer’s Report
  - i. **Frank – please confirm the update:**  
**February Update**
    1. **Beginning Balance: \$77,563.72**
    2. **Revenues: \$1,450.57**
    3. **Expenses: \$15,985.47**
    4. **Ending Cash Balance: \$63,028.82**
  - ii. **Mr. Caponi reported that he will begin working to send out letters in April to the local agencies that have supported the LTF to provide background information about the LTF and informing them that we will be requesting contributions FY 2024-25 in May. A second letter will be sent subsequently to request the funding contributions.**
- 3) Western Regional Symposium Update
  - i. **The Western Regional Symposium is being organized by the Founding Chapter and will be held May 20-23, 2024 in Palm Springs. This year the LTF is not hosting a policy session.**
- 4) Tax Status Update **DID NOT DISCUSS THIS ITEM**

**9. Meeting adjourned at 2:35 pm**

**Enclosures:**

- LTF Legislative Review List with Meeting Notes**
- March 2024 Treasurer’s Report**
- Commingled Rate Fact Sheet and Coalition Letter**
- Fact Sheets for various bills**
- March 2024 LTF Meeting Attendance Roster**



Legislative Task Force  
CALIFORNIA CHAPTERS

**FINAL APPROVED**  
**March 21, 2024 Legislative Review**  
**With Meeting Notes**

- 1) AB 2 (Ward) Recycling: solar photovoltaic modules.
  - i. Support in Concept
  - ii. 2-year bill
  - iii. **Sponsors are working on amendments**
- 2) AB 347 (Ting) Household product safety: toxic substances: testing and enforcement.
  - i. Support if Amended- if new products
  - ii. 2-year bill
- 3) AB 660 (Irwin) Food labeling: quality dates, safety dates, and sell by dates.
  - i. Watch
  - ii. 2-year bill
  - iii. **Not likely to move; see AB 2577 (Irwin) – replacement bill**
- 4) AB 863 (Aguiar-Curry) Carpet recycling: carpet stewardship organizations: fines: succession: procedure.
  - i. Support in Concept
  - ii. 2-year bill
  - iii. **This bill was not discussed.**
- 5) AB 1238 (Ward) Hazardous waste: solar panels.
  - i. Support in concept
  - ii. 2-year bill
  - iii. **This bill was not discussed.**
- 6) AB 1290 (L. Rivas) Product safety: plastic packaging: substances
  - i. Support
  - ii. 2-year bill
  - iii. **This bill was not discussed.**
- 7) AB 1567 (E. Garcia) Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparation, Flood Protection, Extreme Heat Mitigation, and Workforce Development Bond Act of 2024.
  - i. 2-year bill
  - ii. **This bill was not discussed.**
- 8) AB 2236 (Bauer-Kahan) Solid waste: reusable grocery bags: standards: plastic film prohibition
  - i. **New!**
  - ii. [Press release here](#)
  - iii. **Closes loophole with plastic grocery bag ban previously enacted by prohibiting all plastic grocery bags at specified types of stores. Takes effect 1-1-26.**
  - iv. **Partnering with Sen. Blakespear (SB 1053) => bills are the same.**
  - v. **Position: Support - Moved, seconded and approved with one no vote.**
- 9) AB 2311 (Bennett) Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund: grant program: edible food.
  - i. **New!**
  - ii. **Expands grant program for edible food**

- iii. Position: Support if amended to give consideration or preference to small/disadvantaged communities (Lynnda to work with Priscilla on proposed amendment). Moved, seconded and approved.
- 10) AB 2346 (Lee) Organic waste reduction regulations: procurement of recovered organic waste products
- i. New!
  - ii. Sponsor= StopWaste (Alameda Co)
  - iii. The bill has to do with procurement requirements under SB 1383. However, the author and sponsor are working with CalRecycle on technical amendments.
  - iv. Position: Watch (note: watch positions are not voted on)
- 11) AB 2514 (Aguiar-Curry) Solid waste: organic waste
- i. New!
  - ii. Bioenergy Association of California – not the sponsor but very involved.
  - iii. This bill would define pyrolysis for the purposes of energy programs at the CA Energy Commission and add biomethane and hydrogen made from organic waste to products eligible for procurement under SB 1383.
  - iv. This bill includes provisions related to the rural exemption but this may be removed.
  - v. Position: Support – Moved, seconded and approved.
- 12) AB 2577 (Irwin) Organic waste: reduction regulations
- i. New!
  - ii. Requires CalRecycle to create food labeling requirements to reduce food waste.
  - iii. Position: Watch
- 13) AB 2626 (Dixon) Advanced Clean Fleets regulations: local governments.
- i. New!
  - ii. This bill would extend the compliance dates for local government set forth in the Advanced Clean Fleets Regulation by 10 years and prohibit CARB from taking enforcement action against a local government for violating the Advanced Clean Fleets Regulation if the alleged violation occurs before January 1, 2025..
  - iii. Position: Support – Moved, seconded and approved.
- 14) AB 2648 (Bennett) Environmentally preferable purchasing: single-use plastic bottles
- i. New!
  - ii. Prohibits state agencies from purchasing single-use plastic bottles for internal use except for health & safety.
  - iii. Position: Watch
- 15) AB 2658 (Bains) Short-lived climate pollutants: organic waste: reduction regulations: exemption
- i. New!
  - ii. Exempts food processing industry from organic waste diversion requirements.
  - iii. Position: Watch
- 16) AB 2761 (Hart) Product safety: plastic packaging: Reducing Toxics in Packaging Act
- i. New!
  - ii. Reduces toxic chemicals in packaging, including intentionally added PFAS
  - iii. Position: Support – Moved, seconded and approved.
- 17) AB 2762 (Friedman) California Beverage Container Recycling and Litter Reduction Act: administration.
- i. New!
  - ii. Spot bill (no position/watch to see if amended)
- 18) AB 2902 (Wood) Organic waste: reduction regulations: exemptions.
- i. New!
  - ii. Sponsor=RCRC
  - iii. Extends a variety of SB 1383 rural exemptions; clarifies that compost/mulch giveaways are not a gift of public funds
  - iv. Position: Support – Moved, seconded and approved.

- v. Hearing April 8 by Assembly Natural Resources Committee**
- 19) SB 615 (Allen) Vehicle traction batteries.
- i. Support in Concept
  - ii. 2-year bill
  - iii. **No changes - keep watching.**
- 20) SB 707 (Newman) Responsible Textile Recovery Act of 2023.
- i. Watch
  - ii. Two-year bill
  - iii. **CPSC=sponsor; working on amendments.**
- 21) SB 903 (Skinner) Environmental health: product safety: perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances.
- i. **New!**
  - ii. **Sponsors=Natural Resources Defense Council; Environmental Working Group; Breast Cancer Prevention Project; CASA**
  - iii. **This bill would prohibit most uses of intentionally-added PFAS in products by 2030, but provides a process for companies to apply to DTSC for waivers from these requirements if they can demonstrate that the use is unavoidable.**
  - iv. **Position: Support – Moved, seconded and approved.**
- 22) SB 972 (Min) Methane emissions: organic waste: landfills.
- i. **New!**
  - ii. **Sponsor=CalCities; currently a spot bill with amends coming soon. Will address technical assistance to jurisdictions for SB 1383 compliance.**
  - iii. **Watch & revisit when amended**
- 23) SB 1045 (Blakespear) Composting facilities
- i. **New!**
  - ii. **Sponsor=CA Compost Coalition**
  - iii. **Requires the Office of Planning & Research to develop a model zoning ordinance; and requires local jurisdictions to adopt the model ordinance when they update their General Plans. Contains other provisions related to speeding up the permitting process by air districts and water boards.**
  - iv. **Position: Oppose unless amended (Moved, seconded and approved. The amendments would be to remove the requirement to adopt the model ordinance by all local jurisdictions.**
  - v. **Priscilla will work with sponsor/other local govt groups, who share this concern.**
- 24) SB 1046 (Laird) Organic waste reduction: program environmental impact report: composting facilities.
- i. **New!**
  - ii. **Requires Programmatic Environmental Impact Report for small/medium composting facilities. Supported by local govt groups.**
  - iii. **Position: Tabled – seek more information about how this works together with existing CEQA rules.**
  - iv. **For more information, see Senate Environmental Quality Committee analysis: [https://leginfo.ca.gov/faces/billAnalysisClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=202320240SB1046](https://leginfo.ca.gov/faces/billAnalysisClient.xhtml?bill_id=202320240SB1046)**
- 25) SB 1053 (Blakespear) Solid waste: reusable grocery bags: standards: plastic film prohibition.
- i. **New!**
  - ii. **Closes loophole with plastic grocery bag ban previously enacted by prohibiting all plastic grocery bags at specified types of stores. Takes effect 1-1-26.**
  - iii. **Partnering with Assemblymember Bauer-Kahan (AB 2236) => bills are the same.**
  - iv. **Position: Support - Moved, seconded and approved with one no vote.**
- 26) SB 1066 (Blakespear) Hazardous waste: marine flares: producer responsibility
- i. **New!**

- ii. Sponsors = ZeroWaste Sonoma & NSAC=sponsors
  - iii. Would adopt an extended producer responsibility program for marine flares
  - iv. RCRC and CalCities support SB 1066
  - v. Position: Support -- Moved, seconded and approved
- 27) SB 1113 (Newman) Beverage container recycling: pilot projects: extension
- i. New!
  - ii. Extends pilot projects for beverage container recycling to 2033 (authorized funding is not increased (\$5 mil))
  - iii. Watch
- 28) SB 1143 (Allen) Household hazardous waste: producer responsibility.
- i. New!
  - ii. Sponsor = NSAC
  - iii. Would adopt an extended producer responsibility program for HHW. Some technical issues still need to be worked out.
  - iv. Position: Support in concept -- Moved, seconded and approved
- 29) SB 1147 (Portantino) Drinking water: bottled water: microplastics levels.
- i. New!
  - ii. Would require the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) to study the health impacts of microplastics in drinking water, including bottled water, evaluate and identify safe and unsafe levels of microplastics in those types of water, and, by January 1, 2026, to develop and deliver to the State Water Board public health standards and goals for a safe level of microplastics drinking water. Would further require the State Water Board, by January 1, 2028, to adopt and implement those public health standards and goals and would also require annual testing and reporting of microplastics in bottled water sold in or into this state.
  - iii. Position: Watch
- 30) SB 1167 (Blakespear) Solid waste: single-use drinking vessels.
- i. New!
  - ii. Requires reusable cups for dine-in customers at chain restaurants
  - iii. Position: Watch
- 31) SB 1175 (Ochoa Bogh) Organic waste: reduction goals: local jurisdictions: waivers
- i. New!
  - ii. Note - overlap with AB 2902.
  - iii. Position: Watch
  - iv. Hearing on April 3 by Senate Environmental Quality Committee
- 32) SB 1280 (Laird) Waste management: propane cylinders: reusable or refillable
- i. Support
  - ii. This bill was not discussed.
- 33) SB 1384 (Dodd) Powered wheelchairs: repair.
- i. New!
  - ii. Right to Repair bill for powered wheelchairs
  - iii. Position: Watch
- 34) SB 1393 (Niello) Advanced Clean Fleets Regulation Appeals Advisory Committee
- i. New!
  - ii. Would require CARB to establish the Advanced Clean Fleets Regulation Appeals Advisory Committee for purposes of reviewing appeals of denied requests for exemptions from the requirements of the Advanced Clean Fleets Regulation.
  - iii. Position: watch (priority)
  - iv. Hearing on April 3<sup>rd</sup> by Senate Environmental Quality Committee
- 35) SB 1426 (Blakespear) Waste reduction: undiverted materials

- i. **New!**
- ii. **Sponsor=Diversion Strategies**
- iii. **This bill would prohibit a city or county ordinance from precluding the collection, transportation, or diversion of materials not diverted by, or the provision of diversion services using a method or process not offered by, a local governing body's solid waste handling services.**
- iv. **This bill is very controversial and has lots of opposition (haulers, local gov, CAW, labor). Amendments are anticipated before the bill is heard in policy committees.**
- v. **Position: Watch (priority) – review once it is amended.**
- vi. **Hearing on April 24 by Senate Environmental Quality Committee, then it will be heard by the Senate Committee on Local Government in early May.**

**SWANA LEGISLATIVE TASK FORCE**  
**February 2024 Treasurer's Report**  
**SUMMARY**

**MONTHLY SUMMARY**

	JAN 2024	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
<b>BEGINNING BALANCE <sup>1</sup></b>	\$88,378.45	\$77,563.72	\$63,028.82	\$63,028.82	\$63,028.82	\$63,028.82	\$63,028.82	\$63,028.82	\$63,028.82	\$63,028.82	\$63,028.82	\$63,028.82
<b>REVENUES</b>	\$2,300.73	\$1,450.57	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
(from Revenues sheet, Line 7)												
<b>EXPENSES <sup>2</sup></b>	\$13,115.46	\$15,985.47	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
(from Expenses sheet, Line 6)												
<b>ENDING BALANCE</b>	\$77,563.72	\$63,028.82	\$63,028.82	\$63,028.82	\$63,028.82	\$63,028.82	\$63,028.82	\$63,028.82	\$63,028.82	\$63,028.82	\$63,028.82	\$63,028.82
<b>MATCHES BANK STATEMENT?</b>	Yes	Yes										

YTD	BUDGETED	% BUDGET
<b>\$3,751</b>	<b>\$68,006</b>	<b>6%</b>

(Line 7)

<b>\$29,101</b>	<b>\$95,100</b>	<b>31%</b>
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(Line 6)

**NOTES:**

1- Bank balance of each listed month. Balance for January reflective of Statement balance on January 2, 2024.

2- Expenses reflect checks and debits posted by bank in month shown.

**SWANA LEGISLATIVE TASK FORCE  
February 2024 Treasurer's Report  
EXPENSES**

Line No.		Posted to Account <sup>1</sup>												YTD	BUDGET
		JAN 2024	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC		
1	SYASL REGULATORY REVIEW	\$1,130.73	\$1,103.15											\$2,234	\$13,600
2	SYASL CONTRACT	\$3,669.24	\$3,579.74											\$7,249	\$45,000
3	NON-SYASL EXPENSES	\$0.00	\$155.58											\$156	\$15,000
4	NETTOP PUBLISHING (WEBSITE)	\$3,505.99	\$0.00											\$3,506	\$1,500
5	Legal Counsel	\$4,809.50	\$11,147.00											\$15,957	\$20,000
6	<b>TOTALS</b>	\$13,115.46	\$15,985.47	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	<b>\$29,100.93</b>	<b>\$95,100</b>
7														% INCURRED	31%

Line No.	MONTH SERVICES RENDERED	SYASL Payment Data													
		JAN 2024	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC		
12	SYASL INVOICE NO.	19920	22006												
13	Web Draft No.	5007	5010												
14	AMOUNT	\$4,799.97	\$4,682.89												
15	DATE CHECK POSTED	1/22/24	2/14/24												

QUARTERLY LOBBYING PAYMENTS (BY INCURRED DATE)				
1ST QUARTER	2ND QUARTER	3RD QUARTER	4TH QUARTER	
\$9,482.86	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	

**Notes:**  
1 Invoices are typically paid for the previous month. So, for example, January expenses reflects December invoices.

SWANA LEGISLATIVE TASK FORCE  
 February 2024 Treasurer's Report  
 REVENUE

Line No.		REVENUES												YTD	BUDGET
		JAN 2024	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC		
1	DUES SURCHARGE <sup>1</sup>	300.00	450.00											750.00	18000.00
2	WESTERN REGIONAL SYMPOSIUM	0.00	0.00											0.00	20000.00
\$3	MOLO COURSE REVENUES	0.00	0.00											0.00	5000.00
4	INTEREST	0.73	0.57											1.30	6.00
5	AGENCY CONTRIBUTIONS	2000.00	1000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3000.00	25000.00
6	WASTECON	0.00	0.00											0.00	0.00
a	Butte County														
b	City of Berkeley														
c	City of Clovis														
d	City of Colfax														
e	City of Fresno														
f	City of Los Angeles														
g	City of Manteca														
h	City of Roseville														
i	City of San Diego														
j	City of Santa Maria														
k	City of Stockton														
l	City of Sunnyvale														
m	City of Tulare														
n	City of Visalia														
o	City of Watsonville														
p	Fresno County														
q	Humboldt WMA														
r	Imperial County														
s	Kern County														
t	Kings County/KWRA														
u	LA County Sanitation Districts														
v	Merced County RWMA														
w	Monterey RWMD														
x	Orange County														
y	Placer County	2000.00													
z	Riverside County														
aa	Sacramento County														
bb	Salinas Valley SWA		1000.00												
cc	San Joaquin County														
dd	San Mateo County														
ee	South Bayside WMA														
ff	Ventura County														
gg	Yolo County														
hh	City of Santa Monica														
6	OTHER													0.00	
7	TOTALS	2300.73	1450.57	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3751.30	68006.00

% OF BUDGETED

6%

FOOTNOTES:  
 1 - \$30/member

# Bottle Bill Issue Brief: Update Needed to Curbside Commingled Rate for CRV Glass and PET

## The Problem

- The 2024 Commingled Rates<sup>1</sup> for CRV Glass and PET collected at curbside require immediate update to reflect the most recent and accurate survey data.
- Failure to correct rates means publicly financed curbside programs are shorted an estimated **\$4 million monthly**, culminating in a **whopping \$40-80 million shortfall**.
- Inaction means tens of millions of newly eligible CRV containers **are not being counted as ‘recycled,’** thereby skewing perceptions of the program’s effectiveness.
- In December, [CalRecycle announced](#) their intent to indefinitely postpone the 2024 rate update, pointing stakeholders to the process for determining the **2025** rate instead.

## The Solution

- CalRecycle must immediately establish an updated (correct) curbside commingled rate based on the Department’s latest curbside surveys, which are continuously conducted and updated.
- Curbside program payment claims and ‘return rates’ for CRV containers collected since January 1, 2024 must be adjusted to retroactively reflect corrected rates.
- CalRecycle must use its existing statutory authority<sup>2</sup> to adjust rates quarterly or as often as needed to maintain accurate payment.

## Immediately Administratively Solvable

- CalRecycle has already finalized a reliable 2023 update on Recycling Program Rates survey, which is the basis for adjusting rates back to January 1.
- CalRecycle’s year-round curbside surveys provide an even more granular view, providing evidentiary and empirical support for making quarterly adjustments.
- **No additional reporting from recyclers or processors:** Adjusting payments and recycling rates is purely an administrative change.

## Background

On January 1, wine, distilled spirits, and large fruit juice containers were added to the CRV program by [SB 1013 \(Atkins\)](#) and [SB 353 \(Dodd\)](#).

- Projected to add more than 1.2 to 1.4 billion new containers, including 700,000 tons of glass.
- Independent MRF surveys suggest that in January alone over 24 million new CRV glass containers were recycled by consumers at curbside, but neither the containers nor their revenue were credited to publicly financed curbside programs. That’s a value **in excess of \$2.4 million** in CRV alone.

Table 1. Most recent (2023) CalRecycle Curbside Data	
CRV – Beer & Soft Drinks	36.1%
CRV – Wine & Distilled Spirits (new SB 1013 inclusions)	50.3%
Non-CRV	13.6%

## The consequences of a 12-month postponement will mean:

- Inaccurate payments and recycling rates for 2024 in violation of legislative intent.
- The false appearance of 10-15 percentage point drop in glass beverage container recycling and a 3-4% drop in the overall container recycling rate.
- Untold financial strain on the State’s already fragile recycling infrastructure.

<sup>1</sup> **Commingled Rate** refers to the surveyed ratio of CRV material collected at curbside divided by the total collected. Updating this rate is essential for determining accurate program payment levels and recycling rates without having to physically separate CRV and Non-CRV containers of same material type.

<sup>2</sup> **CA Public Resources Code 14549.5 reads:** “On or before April 1, 2004, and annually thereafter, or more frequently as determined to be necessary by the department, the department shall review and, if necessary in order to ensure payment of the most accurate commingled rate feasible, recalculate commingled rates paid for beverage containers and postfilled containers paid to curbside recycling programs and collection programs.”

March XX, 2024

Amy Cameron, Deputy Director  
CalRecycle, Division of Recycling  
Amy.Cameron@calrecycle.ca.gov  
1101 I Street | Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: ...ensure payment of the most accurate commingled rate feasible**

On behalf of the undersigned local governments, recycling service providers and environmental organizations, we urge the Division of Recycling to exercise its responsibility under Section 14549.5 of the Public Resources Code to “...**ensure payment of the most accurate commingled rate feasible...**” by **updating the commingled rate** on beverage container material collected at curbside since January 1, 2024, based on the division’s most recent curbside survey.

On January 1, 2024, SB 1013 (Atkins) and SB 353 (Dodd) expanded the scope of CRV-eligible containers covered by the program, adding a projected 1.2 billion containers to the program.

However, the division has thus far failed to update the curbside commingled rate and other critical program rates to reflect this expansion—despite the division’s own survey data showing the significant volume of these new CRV containers in curbside programs.

- All available data clearly demonstrates that the current commingled rate for curbside CRV glass is substantially inaccurate dating back to January 1.
- The continuation of the 35% commingled rate for glass is 51 percentage points lower than the amount of CRV glass identified by the division in their most recent survey.
- Failure to correct rates means publicly financed curbside programs are being underpaid as much as \$200 per ton for glass alone.
- The shortfall is costing publicly financed collection programs an estimated **\$4 million per month, exceeding \$40 million in total** under the Division’s timeline.
- Further inaction means that tens of millions of newly eligible CRV containers **are not being counted as ‘recycled’** every month, thereby distorting recycling rates and undermining perception of the program’s effectiveness.

We are calling on the Division of Recycling to exercise existing authority to:

- 1) Immediately establish an updated commingled rate based on the division’s most recent survey data; and
- 2) Recalculate CRV recycling rates and program payments on all material reported as collected at curbside since January 1, 2024.

Thank you for your attention to this pressing matter.

Sincerely,

**Californians Against Waste**



## AB 2236 – Eliminating Plastic Bags

### Summary

AB 2236 and SB 1053 (Blakespear) take aim at plastic waste in California by eliminating the option to receive a plastic bag at retail stores that include food items and grocery stores.

### Background

In 2014, California passed the nation’s first ban on plastic bags. SB 270 (Padilla) required all plastic bags used in grocery, convenience, and retail stores that include grocery, to be reusable.

After a decade under SB 270, it has become clear that California has not eliminated plastic grocery bags. The standards for reusable bags have resulted in bags that are still made of thicker plastic, high-density polyethylene, or HDPE.

Earlier this year, CalRecycle – pursuant to [SB 343](#) (Allen, 2021) - determined that the polyethylene film used to make the thick PD bags, were determined to be “not recyclable.” This designation means that the thick HDPE bags we commonly use today are in a state of legal limbo, creating issues for business and environment alike.

Since SB 270, many states like New York and New Jersey have surpassed California’s standards, passing their own bans without the same loopholes.

### Problem

Plastic bags, even the thicker “reusable” ones, are environmental blights that clog drains, take centuries to decay, and are all but impossible to recycle. Plastic bags create a new market for oil companies, and create toxic petrochemical waste. Their paper counterparts are compostable,

recyclable, and produce significantly lower emissions.

Under current law, the flawed definition of reusable bags has allowed for the continued use of plastic bags in stores.

California resolved to eliminate plastic grocery bags a decade ago. Now, with New York, New Jersey, and Colorado moving far beyond California’s lax standards, California is falling behind on its environmental goals as well as trailing other states.

### What this bill does

AB 2236 ends the use of thick plastic bags in grocery stores. It allows for the sale of genuinely reusable tote bags, and the continued use of paper bags.

To save the environment and reduce our waste, California must move away from its dependence on plastic. AB 2236, along with SB 1053, make California’s dream of eliminating plastic bags a reality.

### Support

Azul  
California Grocers Association  
CaliforniansAgainst Waste  
CA Public Interest Research Group (CALPIRG)  
Oceana  
Ocean Conservancy

### Contact

Sarah Goodman  
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## **AB 2626 – Advanced Clean Fleets Regulations: Local Governments**

### **Background**

Efforts to comply with the current zero-emission vehicle (ZEV) mandate regulations within the time limits propagated by the California Air Resources Board (CARB) creates significant issues for local governments, many of which are out of their control and not able to be mitigated. AB 2626 will extend the compliance dates for local government set forth in the Advanced Clean Fleets Regulation by 10 years. The bill will also prohibit the state board from taking enforcement action against a local government for violating the Advanced Clean Fleets Regulation if the alleged violation occurs before January 1, 2025.

### **Problem Being Addressed**

The resources available to local governments to address the needs of their communities and constituents are regularly oversubscribed and subject to unforeseeable policy changes at the federal and state levels. Compliance with the current zero-emission vehicle (ZEV) mandates via time limit regulations propagated by the California Air Resources Board (CARB), creates the following challenges:

1. *Limited Availability.* Industry has yet to advance technologies or production levels of ZEVs to meet the needs of local governments, especially for medium- and heavy-duty fleet vehicles and equipment (further defined as gross vehicle weights greater than 8,500 pounds).

2. *Public Procurement Process.* Local governments are required to hire CARB-compliant fleet providers through a process of verification and disclosure of regulation applicability, which restricts agency purchasing power and may limit open bidding policies and practices.

3. *Cost Escalation.* Specialized fleet vehicles manufactured to be ZEV compliant can cost 40 to 50% more than non-ZEV equivalents.

4. *Battery Life / Operational Impacts.* ZEV compliant specialized fleet vehicles may have a battery life that only allows for operation for half of the work day.

5. *Vehicle Weight / Size.* Agencies that have been able to obtain the limited stock of ZEV specialized fleet vehicles report that the weight of these new vehicles has created damage to asphalt driving areas at facilities.

6. *Lack of Charging Infrastructure.* If a local government could address all issues listed above... local agencies are faced with limited or no on-site ZEV charging infrastructure – especially for the voltage and attachment types for specialty fleet vehicles.

### **What code section will be affected?**

This bill will add Section 1. – Section 43109 to the Health and Safety Code.

### **Summary**

AB 2626 will extend the compliance dates for local governments set forth in the Advanced Clean Fleets Regulation by 10 years, thus allowing ZEV and battery manufacturers to advance technologies to address issues specific to specialty fleet vehicles. The bill will also prohibit CARB from taking enforcement action against a local government for violating the Advanced Clean Fleets Regulation if the alleged violation occurs before January 1, 2025.

### **Staff Contact**

Caroline Strouse:  
Caroline.Strouse@asm.ca.gov

### **Supporters**

*City of Seal Beach*

# Assembly Bill 2902 – Organic Waste Recycling: Right-Sizing and Flexibility

## Assemblymember Jim Wood

### THE PROBLEM

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The landmark organic waste reduction law, SB 1383 (Lara, 2016), requires the state to reduce landfill disposal of organic waste 75 percent below 2014 levels by 2025. Local governments are working hard to implement SB 1383, but California is not a one-size-fits-all state and there is no single solution to achieving the state’s organic waste reduction goals. The state’s smallest counties are exempted from certain aspects of SB 1383 through 2026, but they face the greatest financial and practical implementation challenges if their exemptions sunset.

Without changes to increase flexibility and recognize the challenges faced by smaller, rural communities, those jurisdictions will be required to make significant investments resulting in substantial fee increases to residents that are disproportionate to the amount of organic waste diverted.

This bill would simply provide smaller counties more flexibility to develop and implement organic waste diversion and recycling programs that are tailored to meet the needs of their communities.

### BACKGROUND

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SB 1383 regulations impose significant obligations on local governments. The greatest implementation challenges and highest rate increases will occur in rural and sparsely populated areas. While the regulations are generally tailored to work within the solid waste collection systems of urban areas, they are not well suited and provide little flexibility to meet the needs and challenges of lower population and rural areas.

In its recent evaluation of SB 1383, the Little Hoover Commission recommended creating pathways for development of smaller scale independent community composting operations. These types of businesses can plug gaps that may exist in existing organic waste collection systems and may be more suitable in smaller, rural areas where traditional collection and larger-scale processing are not financially feasible. In the past, CalRecycle has developed alternative model

ordinances that can be adopted by local governments and statewide guidance could be helpful, especially for smaller and less-resourced jurisdictions.

SB 1383 requires the state to increase the amount of edible food recovered for human consumption. An unanticipated result is that some larger generators are no longer donating their foods to local food assistance and animal feed operations. Instead, larger generators now often backhaul edible food to warehouses several hours away where it is separated into what can be donated to food assistance programs and what should go to the landfill. The unfortunate result is an erosion of local benefits.

Most landfills are required to install methane capture and control infrastructure, but some emissions continue and leaks can develop. California’s Pollution Control Financing Authority and the Infrastructure and Economic Development Bank can provide low-interest loans and financial tools to assist public and private landfill owners to further reduce emissions at their facilities; however, it is unclear how well known those programs are.

### BILL SUMMARY

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This proposal right-sizes and increases flexibility for smaller and rural local governments to comply with SB 1383 organic waste recycling regulations, facilitates smaller scale community composting programs, asks CalRecycle to recognize local government efforts to keep forest and agricultural waste out of landfills, increases local benefits of edible food recovery programs, and encourages education opportunities for landfill owners to reduce the escape of methane emissions.

### STATUS

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Assembly Rules

### SUPPORT

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Rural County Representatives of California (Sponsor)

**FOR MORE INFORMATION**

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Franklin Porter, Legislative Director  
Office of Assemblymember Jim Wood  
916-319-2002 | [Franklin.Porter@asm.ca.gov](mailto:Franklin.Porter@asm.ca.gov)





RURAL COUNTY REPRESENTATIVES  
OF CALIFORNIA

February 22, 2024

The Honorable Jim Wood  
Member, California State Assembly  
1021 O Street, Room 8320  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: Assembly Bill 2902 – SPONSOR  
As Introduced February 15, 2024**

Dear Assembly Member Wood:

On behalf of the Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC), we are pleased to sponsor your Assembly Bill 2902, regarding organic waste management. RCRC is an association of forty rural California counties and the RCRC Board of Directors is comprised of elected supervisors from each of those member counties.

Assembly Bill 2902 provides additional flexibility to local governments implementing the state's SB 1383 organic waste diversion objectives. SB 1383 requires the state to reduce landfill disposal of organic waste 75 percent below 2014 levels by 2025. CalRecycle's implementing regulations are generally tailored to dovetail within the solid waste collection system that exists in urban areas, but they are sometimes poorly suited to deal with the needs and challenges of lower-population and rural areas and afford very little flexibility for those situations. As a result, the greatest implementation challenges and highest anticipated rate increases will occur in rural and sparsely populated areas of the state.

AB 2902 takes a multi-pronged approach to provide local governments with flexibility, promote innovation, and increase local benefits.

First, AB 2902 extends the existing rural exemption for the state's 19 counties with fewer than 70,000 residents (and cities within those counties)<sup>1</sup>. Collectively, these 19 counties have just under 600,000 residents spread across 50,000 square miles. Many of those counties have a population density of under 10 persons per square mile. Under CalRecycle's SB 1383 regulations, this rural exemption expires December 31, 2026, and cannot be extended. At that time, rural counties will have to comply with SB 1383's collection and procurement obligations, which are ill-suited for the remote and rural nature of those counties and will result in disproportionately high compliance costs relative to the amount of organic waste diverted or procured. Procurement will be particularly challenging for the eight rural border counties, as they are generally too small to support new composting facilities and would be barred from complying

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<sup>1</sup> Lake, San Benito, Tehama, Tuolumne, Calaveras, Siskiyou, Amador, Lassen, Glenn, Del Norte, Colusa, Inyo, Plumas, Mariposa, Trinity, Mono, Modoc, Sierra, and Alpine Counties.

1215 K Street, Suite 1650, Sacramento, CA 95814 | [www.rcrcnet.org](http://www.rcrcnet.org) | 916.447.4806 | Fax: 916.448.3154

with the procurement obligations by using products from nearby out-of-state facilities. In light of these challenges, AB 2902 appropriately extends the current exemption. As such, rural jurisdictions will continue to be exempt from collection and procurement requirements, but will still have to implement SB 1383's edible food recovery, recycled paper procurement, and model water efficient landscaping requirements. AB 2902 also provides an implementation glidepath for counties that eventually outgrow the rural population cap.

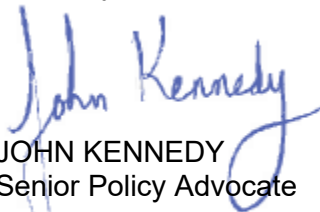
Second, AB 2902 provides compliance flexibility for another 12 smaller counties that generate less than 200,000 tons of solid waste annually.<sup>2</sup> Unfortunately, there is little flexibility built into the existing regulations to let lower population counties develop innovative alternative compliance pathways. These jurisdictions often have different organic waste profiles and management strategies that still result in diversion of organic waste, but in different ways than are contemplated in the regulations. Furthermore, many of these lower population counties are often economically-disadvantaged and have low population densities that make achieving these ambitious requirements even more challenging. AB 2902 creates a pathway for smaller counties to innovate and submit alternative organic waste management plans to CalRecycle for approval. Importantly, this flexibility only applies to unincorporated parts of those counties and does not extend to census designated places with a population of over 10,000.

Third, AB 2902 provides a process for higher elevation jurisdictions to dispose of food waste in trash cans where nearby bear populations pose a public safety and animal welfare risk. This flexibility will help avoid adverse interactions between human and bear populations.

AB 2902 also seeks to increase local benefits from edible food recovery programs; sustain the use of organics for local animal feed practices; promote carbon farming; adjust procurement targets to exclude populations covered by exemptions; and facilitate the development of smaller-scale community composting programs. Finally, AB 2902 clarifies existing caselaw that local compost and mulch give aways and rebates are not a gift of public funds.

For these reasons, RCRC is pleased to sponsor your AB 2902. If you should have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at [jkennedy@rcrcnet.org](mailto:jkennedy@rcrcnet.org).

Sincerely,



JOHN KENNEDY  
Senior Policy Advocate

cc: The Honorable Brian Dahle, Member, California State Senate  
The Honorable Isaac Bryan, Chair, Assembly Natural Resources Committee  
Members of the Assembly Natural Resources Committee  
Elizabeth MacMillan, Consultant, Assembly Natural Resources Committee  
Casey Dunn, Consultant, Assembly Natural Resources Committee

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<sup>2</sup> El Dorado, Humboldt, Imperial, Kings, Mendocino, Madera, Napa, Nevada, Shasta, Yuba, Sutter, and Yolo Counties.

# Bottle Bill Issue Brief: Update Needed to Curbside Commingled Rate for CRV Glass and PET

## The Problem

- The 2024 Commingled Rates<sup>1</sup> for CRV Glass and PET collected at curbside require immediate update to reflect the most recent and accurate survey data.
- Failure to correct rates means publicly financed curbside programs are shorted an estimated **\$4 million monthly**, culminating in a **whopping \$40-80 million shortfall**.
- Inaction means tens of millions of newly eligible CRV containers **are not being counted as ‘recycled,’** thereby skewing perceptions of the program’s effectiveness.
- In December, [CalRecycle announced](#) their intent to indefinitely postpone the 2024 rate update, pointing stakeholders to the process for determining the **2025** rate instead.

## The Solution

- CalRecycle must immediately establish an updated (correct) curbside commingled rate based on the Department’s latest curbside surveys, which are continuously conducted and updated.
- Curbside program payment claims and ‘return rates’ for CRV containers collected since January 1, 2024 must be adjusted to retroactively reflect corrected rates.
- CalRecycle must use its existing statutory authority<sup>2</sup> to adjust rates quarterly or as often as needed to maintain accurate payment.

## Immediately Administratively Solvable

- CalRecycle has already finalized a reliable 2023 update on Recycling Program Rates survey, which is the basis for adjusting rates back to January 1.
- CalRecycle’s year-round curbside surveys provide an even more granular view, providing evidentiary and empirical support for making quarterly adjustments.
- **No additional reporting from recyclers or processors:** Adjusting payments and recycling rates is purely an administrative change.

## Background

On January 1, wine, distilled spirits, and large fruit juice containers were added to the CRV program by [SB 1013 \(Atkins\)](#) and [SB 353 \(Dodd\)](#).

- Projected to add more than 1.2 to 1.4 billion new containers, including 700,000 tons of glass.
- Independent MRF surveys suggest that in January alone over 24 million new CRV glass containers were recycled by consumers at curbside, but neither the containers nor their revenue were credited to publicly financed curbside programs. That’s a value **in excess of \$2.4 million** in CRV alone.

Table 1. Most recent (2023) CalRecycle Curbside Data	
CRV – Beer & Soft Drinks	36.1%
CRV – Wine & Distilled Spirits (new SB 1013 inclusions)	50.3%
Non-CRV	13.6%

## The consequences of a 12-month postponement will mean:

- Inaccurate payments and recycling rates for 2024 in violation of legislative intent.
- The false appearance of 10-15 percentage point drop in glass beverage container recycling and a 3-4% drop in the overall container recycling rate.
- Untold financial strain on the State’s already fragile recycling infrastructure.

<sup>1</sup> **Commingled Rate** refers to the surveyed ratio of CRV material collected at curbside divided by the total collected. Updating this rate is essential for determining accurate program payment levels and recycling rates without having to physically separate CRV and Non-CRV containers of same material type.

<sup>2</sup> **CA Public Resources Code 14549.5 reads:** “On or before April 1, 2004, and annually thereafter, or more frequently as determined to be necessary by the department, the department shall review and, if necessary in order to ensure payment of the most accurate commingled rate feasible, recalculate commingled rates paid for beverage containers and postfilled containers paid to curbside recycling programs and collection programs.”

March XX, 2024

Amy Cameron, Deputy Director  
CalRecycle, Division of Recycling  
Amy.Cameron@calrecycle.ca.gov  
1101 I Street | Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: ...ensure payment of the most accurate commingled rate feasible**

On behalf of the undersigned local governments, recycling service providers and environmental organizations, we urge the Division of Recycling to exercise its responsibility under Section 14549.5 of the Public Resources Code to “...ensure payment of the most accurate commingled rate feasible...” by updating the commingled rate on beverage container material collected at curbside since January 1, 2024, based on the division’s most recent curbside survey.

On January 1, 2024, SB 1013 (Atkins) and SB 353 (Dodd) expanded the scope of CRV-eligible containers covered by the program, adding a projected 1.2 billion containers to the program.

However, the division has thus far failed to update the curbside commingled rate and other critical program rates to reflect this expansion—despite the division’s own survey data showing the significant volume of these new CRV containers in curbside programs.

- All available data clearly demonstrates that the current commingled rate for curbside CRV glass is substantially inaccurate dating back to January 1.
- The continuation of the 35% commingled rate for glass is 51 percentage points lower than the amount of CRV glass identified by the division in their most recent survey.
- Failure to correct rates means publicly financed curbside programs are being underpaid as much as \$200 per ton for glass alone.
- The shortfall is costing publicly financed collection programs an estimated **\$4 million per month, exceeding \$40 million in total** under the Division’s timeline.
- Further inaction means that tens of millions of newly eligible CRV containers **are not being counted as ‘recycled’** every month, thereby distorting recycling rates and undermining perception of the program’s effectiveness.

We are calling on the Division of Recycling to exercise existing authority to:

- 1) Immediately establish an updated commingled rate based on the division’s most recent survey data; and
- 2) Recalculate CRV recycling rates and program payments on all material reported as collected at curbside since January 1, 2024.

Thank you for your attention to this pressing matter.

Sincerely,

**Californians Against Waste**



# SB 972

Landfill Methane Emissions: Organic Waste  
Senator Dave Min, 37<sup>th</sup> District

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## **SUMMARY**

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Senate Bill (SB) 972 would bolster the implementation of the organic waste reduction program established in SB 1383 (Chapter 395, Statutes of 2016). The bill will strengthen the technical assistance provided by CalRecycle to local jurisdictions and provide a report to the Legislature assessing the implementation, enforcement, and technical assistance of the program, while making recommendations of improvement.

## **BACKGROUND**

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Methane emissions are about 80 times more powerful than CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, and are most commonly understood as being produced by the dairy and livestock industries. However, methane is also produced when organic waste is disposed of in landfills. Municipal solid waste landfills account for the third-largest source of methane emissions in the United States. When solid waste is deposited in a landfill, anaerobic conditions cause methane-producing bacteria to decompose the waste and generate methane.<sup>1</sup>

With the enactment of SB 1383, California took a big step to reduce methane levels and other short-lived climate pollutants. This law established a target of 50% reduction in the disposal of organic waste from the 2014 level by 2020, and a 75% reduction by 2025. SB 1383 also tasked CalRecycle with developing compliance regulations for local jurisdictions in order to meet these benchmarks.

While the goals set out by SB 1383 are commendable, the implementation has been slow and difficult for some local

jurisdictions to comply with. In June 2023, the Little Hoover Commission released a report showing how California has missed its methane reduction goals for 2020, and was on track to miss its 2025 goals as well. Some of the identified issues with implementation have been duplicative permitting processes, limited market opportunities for organic waste, conflicting directives on end use for landfill gas, and a lack of technical assistance to local jurisdictions.

While it is clear implementation can be improved, it would be counterproductive to pause SB 1383 implementation as recommended in the Little Hoover Commission report. State agencies and local jurisdictions have been working hard to develop plans to reduce organic waste and landfill emissions, and pausing these plans would further delay the state reaching its goals. Instead, the state should bolster the technical assistance available to local jurisdictions, and require reporting from CalRecycle on the status of the program. This will lead to greater accountability and communication between stakeholders, and allow plans established by local jurisdictions to come to fruition.

## **THIS BILL**

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SB 972 will require CalRecycle to develop procedures for local jurisdictions to request technical assistance for SB 1383 implementation and require CalRecycle to post these procedures on its website. This measure also requires CalRecycle to submit a report to the Legislature that outlines the implementation and enforcement of the

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<sup>1</sup>United States Environmental Protection Agency, Landfill Methane Outreach Program: Methane Emissions from Landfills (2023)



# SB 972

Landfill Methane Emissions: Organic Waste  
Senator Dave Min, 37<sup>th</sup> District

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program, review the technical assistance provided to local jurisdictions, and provide recommendations to continue advancing the goals of the program.

## **SUPPORT**

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League of California Cities (Sponsor)

## **OPPOSITION**

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None on file

## **STAFF CONTACT**

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Office of Senator Dave Min  
(916) 651-4037

# California State Senate

SENATOR  
JOHN LAIRD

SEVENTEENTH SENATE DISTRICT



## Senate Bill 1046 – Local Composting Infrastructure

### **SUMMARY**

Senate Bill 1046 strengthens California’s ability to meet its methane reduction goals by accelerating local infrastructure development of small and medium compost facilities.

### **BACKGROUND**

The decomposition of organic waste in landfills is a significant source of greenhouse emissions, with organic waste in landfills emitting 20% of the state’s methane, which is a climate super pollutant 84 times more potent than carbon dioxide. Recognizing these harms, California enacted SB 1383 (Lara, Statutes of 2016) which established statewide methane reduction targets. These targets included a goal to reduce landfill disposal of organic materials by 50% below 2014 levels by 2020, and 75% reductions by 2025.

The state is not currently expected to meet its 2025 goal, and a lack of organics and recycling infrastructure is a contributing factor. The Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) estimates the state needs 50-100 new or expanded facilities to annually recycle the additional 20-25 million tons of organic waste that will be collected with the successful implementation of SB 1383.

Composting organic waste requires jurisdictions to permit, invest in, and develop the infrastructure to process the waste. The existing permitting requirements and process for siting small and medium compost facilities are complicated and vary between jurisdictions. Some of the challenges for compost facility permitting are potential delays and litigation risk from the California Environmental Quality Act process. Without local composting facilities, organic waste has to be

hauled long distances for processing and the resulting recovered organic waste products have to be hauled the same distance back. The resulting emissions from long distance hauling are antithetical to the emissions-reducing goals of SB 1383 and disproportionately impact frontline communities.

Small and medium compost facilities are defined by CalRecycle as facilities that handle up to 5,000 cubic yards and up to 12,500 cubic yards of materials at one time, respectively. Small and medium compost facilities can help keep the compost closer to its point of generation, which reduces emissions and degradation of other crucial infrastructure such as roads. Streamlining the process for communities to establish small and medium compost facilities will also help build local circular economies, create green collar jobs, and improve air quality through reduced emissions from trucks and landfills, while helping California meet its methane reduction goals.

### **THIS BILL**

Senate Bill 1046 requires CalRecycle to develop a program environmental impact report (PEIR) for small and medium compost facilities to streamline permitting and help the state meet its climate goals, all while maintaining California’s strong environmental standards

A PEIR ensures comprehensive review and evaluation of environmental impacts and mitigation, while creating a clear and streamlined path to compliance for compost facilities, permitting agencies, and local governments. A PEIR will help also reduce barriers, costs, and delays to compost facilities.



## **SB 1053 and AB 2236: Plastic Bags**

### SUMMARY

SB 1053 and AB 2236 (Bauer-Kahan) address plastic waste in California by eliminating the option to receive a plastic film bag at grocery stores, and retail grocers. The bills are identical.

### BACKGROUND

In the wake of a patchwork of local ordinances, [SB 270](#) (Padilla, 2014) was adopted, initiating a statewide phase-out of single-use plastic carryout bags at most food and beverage stores. This legislation included an exemption for thicker plastic bags made of high-density polyethylene, or HDPE.

In November 2022, Attorney General Rob Bonta [sent](#) letters to six manufacturers of plastic bags demanding they substantiate their claims that their bags are recyclable. While the manufacturers argue that plastic bags and film are technically recyclable, the manufacturers have been unable to demonstrate that post-consumer bags and film deposited in retail collection bins is actually making its way to plastic recycling processing facilities.

Several media investigations have determined that post-consumer plastic bags left in store recycling bins were [ultimately](#) landfilled or incinerated.

Earlier this year, CalRecycle – pursuant to [SB 343](#) (Allen, 2021) – published a list of products and materials that have demonstrated compliance with the State’s updated definition of

“recyclable.” In this covered material categories [list](#), all plastic film, including the polyethylene film used to make the HDPE bags, were determined to be “not recyclable” in the state of California. This designation means that the thick HDPE bags we commonly use today will ultimately be phased out, but the date is uncertain.

Additionally, the California Statewide Commission on Recycling Markets and Curbside Recycling [issued](#) a formal recommendation for retailers and product manufacturers to remove the words “recycle” and “recyclable,” as well as the recycling symbol from the HDPE plastic bags.

### PROBLEM

If you have been paying attention – if you read the news at all in recent year – you know we are *choking* our planet with plastic waste.

The average person in this nation uses [one](#) plastic bag a day. Globally, we use [5 trillion](#) plastic bags a year. Most of those bags are used briefly, with an average lifespan of [12 minutes](#). Once discarded, plastic bags clog sewage drains, contaminate our drinking water and degenerate into toxic microplastics that fester in our oceans and landfills for up to [1,000](#) years.

This culture of careless plastic consumption has resulted in a tenfold [increase](#) in plastic pollution since 1980 and is responsible for the death of at least 100,000 marine mammals and 1 million seabirds each year. Some [18](#)

[billion](#) pounds of plastic waste flows into the oceans every year from coastal regions alone. That's the equivalent of five grocery bags of plastic trash sitting on every foot of coastline around the world.

The US Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA) estimates that [80%](#) of plastic pollution in the ocean originates as land-based trash. It is roughly calculated that by [2050](#), there will be more plastic by weight in the world's oceans than fish. The US EPA has [found](#) nearly every type of plastic in our oceans and waterways, but polyethylene is one of the most prevalent, which can partly be attributed to widespread use of single-use plastic bags.

In 2004, CalRecycle released a waste characterization study and found Californians disposed of [147,038](#) tons of plastic grocery and merchandise bags, roughly 8 pounds per person. In 2021, that number climbed to [231,072](#) tons of plastic bags, or 11 pounds per person. What this data shows is that the California "plastic bag ban" passed in 2014 did not reduce the overall use of plastic and resulted in a substantial increase.

Although proponents of HDPE bags will claim they are easily recyclable in California, these bags need to go to specialty recycling facilities. According to a LA Times [report](#), many municipal workers say plastic bags have to be manually removed from the machinery at regular recycling centers and end up in a landfill. Moreover, the LA Times reached out to municipal and city recycling centers around the state and was unable to find a *single one* that [accepts](#) HDPE bags for recycling.

In fact, a coalition of nonprofits, led by The Last Beach Cleanup, are [filing](#) lawsuits against retailers alleging that the stores violate state law by distributing exempt plastic bags because they are not recyclable in this state. Gelson's supermarkets [entered](#) into a settlement agreeing to stop distributing the exempt plastic bags.

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## SOLUTION

Eliminate the existing exemption of plastic film bags and require grocery and certain retail stores to no longer provide these bags to their customers.

Further, these proposals increase standards for reusable bags to ensure they are not replaced by a new version of an HDPE bag with plastic film material, or a non-plastic bag that can be easily damaged and is not durable.

Lastly, both SB 1053 and AB 2236 increases the recyclability standard of paper bags to be made from 100% postconsumer recycled materials, without exception, to further a sustainable future.

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## SUPPORT

Azul  
California Grocers Association  
Californians Against Waste  
CA Public Interest Research Group (CALPIRG)  
Environment California  
Lieutenant Governor, Eleni Kounalakis  
Oceana  
Ocean Conservancy

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## STAFF CONTACT

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**SB 1066 | Marine Flare Producer Responsibility Act**

to accept flares, leaving boaters with few options.

PURPOSE

SB 1066 will require producers of marine flares to fund and operate a convenient collection system to manage expired or unwanted flares, which are toxic and explosive, to ensure they are properly disposed of and don't pollute the water or environment.

PROBLEM

Pyrotechnic marine flares have historically been what boaters use to meet the federal requirement to carry U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) approved visual distress signals in case of emergencies. However, these flares contain toxic metals and pollutants that render them hazardous, reactive and explosive waste at EOL.

BACKGROUND

Federal law requires boats operating in coastal waters or bodies of water directly connected to coastal waters to be equipped with distress signals. Boaters most often meet this provision of the law by carrying three in-service flares approved for daytime *and* nighttime use. [According](#) to the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) regulations, the average shelf life for flares is between 36 and 42 months from the manufacture date, requiring boaters to replace them approximately every three years.

[According](#) to the California State Parks Division of Boating and Waterways, an estimated 174,000 outdated flares are generated each year by recreational vessels in the state. However, a lack of convenient disposal options has created a significant EOL management problem, with many HWW facilities unable to accept them due to their not having the permits or proper equipment to safely handle explosives and the exorbitant costs to properly manage them.

The California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), classify flares that will no longer be used for their intended purpose as hazardous waste, due to their being toxic, reactive and ignitable. Flares must be transported as explosives then disposed of at a facility permitted to manage explosives, making their end-of-life (EOL) management extremely costly. Due to excessive cost, many household hazardous waste (HWW) facilities refuse

Currently, there are no permitted facilities in California that can accept, treat, and/or dispose of non-military explosives waste streams. Collected flares must be packaged properly, transported by a licensed hazardous waste authorized driver and stored in a Class 4 magazine prior to shipment, according to the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. It then must be shipped out-of-state to Missouri,

where the only facility still accepting high-hazard flares in the U.S. is located.

[According](#) to Zero Waste Sonoma, in 2023 it cost an estimated \$185 to properly dispose of one unwanted marine flare, when partnering with nearby jurisdictions to help share the cost of transportation. Without partnership, that cost is an estimated \$493 per flare. The same flares can be purchased new for approximately \$13 each.

Boaters in coastal communities across California are frustrated due to the lack of disposal options for flares, with some stockpiling them or illegally disposing of them in trash or waterways. Flares contain toxic chemicals such as perchlorate, which is recognized as a water and health pollutant that can impact our waterways and impair thyroid function.

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## SOLUTION

SB 1066 will require producers to create an Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) program to establish a free and convenient statewide collection program for the proper disposal of marine flares.

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## SUPPORT

National Stewardship Action Council (cosponsor)  
Zero Waste Sonoma (cosponsor)

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## STAFF CONTACT

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Office of Senator Catherine Blakespear  
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March 14, 2024

The Honorable Catherine Blakespear  
Member, California State Senate  
1021 O Street, Room 7340  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: Senate Bill 1066 – SUPPORT  
As Introduced February 12, 2024**

Dear Senator Blakespear:

On behalf of the Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC),  
\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and  
\_\_\_\_\_ we are pleased to support your Senate Bill 1066, which  
creates a producer responsibility program for end-of-life management of marine flares.

Senate Bill 1066 requires manufacturers to create, fund, and implement a producer responsibility program for the end-of-life management of expired flares. Flares are important safety and emergency devices. The U.S. Coast Guard requires marine flares to be carried on recreational boats for use as visual distress signals. While flares are vital safety devices, they generally have expiration dates of less than four years and must be managed as explosive hazardous wastes. While flares can cost consumers from \$13-\$26 each, they generally cost local governments \$46 or more per flare for disposal.


Local governments are responsible for the collection, processing, recycling and disposal of solid waste, including the operation of local household hazardous waste collection programs. These local programs provide important public services and prevent improper disposal of hazardous wastes. Our local programs often offer residents free drop off of HHW; however, the cost to manage some of the waste streams are shocking and put serious financial pressure on the programs and local governments that operate them. Many products, including flares, are far more expensive to manage at the end-of-life than it cost consumers to purchase the product at the point-of-sale. Rather than forcing local governments (and taxpayers) to shoulder those costs, SB 1066 appropriately requires the manufacturers who introduce those goods into the stream of commerce to take charge of the collection, transportation, and management of their expired flares. We

The Honorable Catherine Blakespear  
Senate Bill 1066  
March 14, 2024

also hope that SB 1066 will create clearer and more convenient disposal opportunities for consumers to safely dispose of expired flares.

We are pleased to support your SB 1066 because it will increase convenience for consumer disposal of flares while reducing costs for local household hazardous waste programs. We also look forward to working with you on minor clarifications to the bill to improve program operation and reduce ambiguity. If you should have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact [jkennedy@rcrcnet.org](mailto:jkennedy@rcrcnet.org), or .

Sincerely,



JOHN KENNEDY  
RCRC  
Senior Policy Advocate

MELISSA SPARKS-KRANZ  
Cal Cities  
Legislative Representative

ADA WAELDER  
CSAC  
Legislative Advocate

cc: Senator Ben Allen, Chair, Senate Environmental Quality Committee  
Members, Senate Environmental Quality Committee  
Gabrielle Meindl, Chief Consultant, Senate Environmental Quality Committee  
Scott Seekatz, Consultant, Senate Republican Caucus



SENATOR  
**CATHERINE BLAKESPEAR**  
SENATE DISTRICT 38



## **SB 1167: Reusable Cups**

### SUMMARY

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SB 1167 takes a step forward in reducing California's stream of plastic and paper waste by requiring reusable cups when dining-in at chain restaurants.

### BACKGROUND

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Several cities have passed or introduced disposable foodware ordinances in response to growing calls for reducing single-use plastic.

Restaurants, particularly large, quick-service chains, rely on single-use foodware for all orders, regardless of whether customers are dining there. Reducing unnecessary single-use plastics by serving beverages in washable and non-toxic reusable cups when customers dine in can help California keep these single-use containers out of the landfill or from ending up as litter.

### PROBLEM

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Although single-use drinkware is often marketed as recyclable or compostable, cups frequently end up in the landfill.

Paper hot cups are usually lined with polyethylene plastic, making them difficult to [recycle](#). Additionally, the single-use accessories associated with to-go drinkware such as lids, stirrers, drink stoppers, and drink sleeves, are too small to be mechanically recycled and [often](#) end up in a landfill.

In California alone, plastic food service ware is responsible for over [500,000 tons](#) of waste each year. Reducing the size of

this waste stream will keep single-use plastics out of landfills and waterways, cut costs for businesses, and shift consumer behavior towards reuse.

Case studies [show](#) that transitioning to reusable foodware and beverage-ware can save a small business between \$3,000 and \$22,000 annually, with the added benefit of reducing 110,000 to 225,000 disposables and preventing 1,300 to 2,200 pounds of single-use trash from entering the waste stream.

### SOLUTION

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Require chain restaurants to provide non-toxic reusable cups for customers who dine in. Reusables create a better experience for customers, save businesses money that they would have otherwise spent on disposable cups and prevent an accumulation of landfill waste.

While a comprehensive transition to reusables for dine-in restaurants must be considered, reusable cups and drinkware are a pragmatic first step in reducing waste and shifting consumer habits.

### SUPPORT

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The 5 Gyres Institute (Cosponsor)  
Californians Against Waste (Cosponsor)  
Heal the Bay (Cosponsor)  
Surfrider Foundation (Cosponsor)

### STAFF CONTACT

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Aubrey Rodríguez | Legislative Director  
Office of Senator Catherine Blakespear  
[Aubrey.Rodriguez@sen.ca.gov](mailto:Aubrey.Rodriguez@sen.ca.gov) | 916-651-4038

# SB 1175: Providing Local Governments Flexibility in SB 1383 Compliance

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## Senator Rosilicie Ochoa Bogh

### SUMMARY

Senate Bill 1175 will require the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) to consider alternatives when deciding the boundaries eligible for a waiver from the Short-Lived Climate Pollutant Reduction Strategy (SB 1383).

### BACKGROUND

Gov. Jerry Brown signed SB 1383 ([Lara, 2016](#)) to reduce short-lived climate pollutants (SLCPs) emissions. Given that organic waste in landfills emits 20% of the state's methane – a SLCP 84 times more potent than carbon dioxide – SB 1383 included a requirement to reduce organic waste disposal by 75% by 2025.<sup>1</sup>

Unfortunately, the implementation of SB 1383 has been less than successful. According to a 2023 report by the Little Hoover Commission (LHC), local governments “are struggling to implement the state's program” and the state “will likely miss its 2025 target.” More importantly, the LHC recommended that “the state should build in as much flexibility as possible for local governments to recycle their organic waste, and let communities choose the best options for them.”<sup>2</sup>

Recognizing that parts of SB 1383 were difficult to implement in mountainous, sparsely-populated, and rural areas of the state, CalRecycle began accepting applications for waivers and exemptions to SB 1383 collection requirements. One of three waivers may be granted to exempt areas from SB 1383 collection requirements for varying periods.

However, these waivers are awarded based not on well-established boundaries, like city or county lines, but on census tracts, which are geographic regions defined only for census purposes. The result is that the boundaries of areas eligible for a waiver make little sense for the purposes of disposing of organic waste.

For example, Running Springs, an unincorporated town in the San Bernardino Mountains, is split

between two census tracts: one with a low-population waiver and one with an elevation waiver. This means that neighbors living across the street from each other have to comply with different collection requirements, which poses logistical challenges for waste management entities.

Due to these challenges, many households in the San Bernardino Mountains have lost regularly scheduled organic waste pickup. Given that much of this region is designated as a “Very High Fire Hazard” zone, regular disposal of highly flammable organic waste such as pine needles is of the utmost importance.<sup>3</sup>

### EXISTING LAW

SB 1383 waivers are described in [§18984.12 of the California Code of Regulations](#). These waivers and exemptions include:

- **Low population waivers:** For jurisdictions that: 1) disposed of less than 5,000 tons of solid waste in 2014 as reported in the Disposal Reporting System and have a total population of less than 7,500 people; or 2) have a population density of less than 75 people per square mile.
- **Rural exemptions:** For jurisdictions located entirely within one or more rural counties (defined as having a total population of less than 70,000 persons), or a regional agency comprising jurisdictions that are located within one or more rural counties.
- **Elevation waivers:** For jurisdictions located at or above an elevation of 4,500 feet.

While low-population waivers and rural exemptions can apply to some or all of the collection requirements of SB 1383, elevation waivers only apply to the collection and separating of food waste and food-soiled paper.<sup>4</sup>

### SOLUTION

To provide more flexibility to local governments in their attempts to reach emission reduction goals, SB

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<sup>1</sup> [CalRecycle, 2023](#)

<sup>2</sup> [LHC, 2023](#)

<sup>3</sup> [CalFire](#)

<sup>4</sup> [CalRecycle, 2023](#)

1175 will require CalRecycle to consider alternatives to census tracts when deciding the boundaries of a jurisdiction eligible for a waiver of some or all of the collection requirements of SB 1383. These alternatives include:

- Boundary maps submitted by local governments;
- Boundaries of incorporated cities; and
- Boundaries of census-designated places.

SB 1175 will also require CalRecycle waivers that are approved based on census tract boundaries to last for at least 10 years, which aligns such waivers with the census.

## **FOR MORE INFORMATION**

Staff: Nicki Taylor

[Nicki.Taylor@sen.ca.gov](mailto:Nicki.Taylor@sen.ca.gov)

(916) 651-4280

Bill text and status can be found at:

<http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/>



## SB 1384 – Dodd Powered Wheelchair: Repair

### Summary

SB 1384, Powered Wheelchairs: Repair, establishes a comprehensive framework designed to empower consumers and independent repair providers by facilitating access to crucial components, tools, and documentation necessary for the upkeep and repair of powered wheelchairs. This legislation also imposes vital limitations on the range of repairs allowed for independent repair shops, emphasizing safety protocols and mitigating potential health issues. Furthermore, before initiating any repairs, the bill mandates that independent repair shops must provide consumers with a written notice, ensuring transparency and enabling informed decision-making.

House Bill 22-1031 and 22-1290 in Colorado, highlights the importance of giving consumers the resources they need to repair and maintain their electronic equipment. These laws ensure that consumers can save money on costly repairs and replacement parts, while also reducing harmful e-waste.

President Biden's support for the right to repair movement and the introduction of a nationwide auto right to repair bill by Congress further emphasize the national movement to empower consumers and provide reasonable options to repair and maintain their devices, including powered wheelchairs. Consumers have a right to access resources they need to preserve their independence and quality of life without facing any unnecessary obstacles or costs.

### Background

Powered wheelchairs are crucial to the well-being and independence of many Californians with a variety of medical conditions and mobility issues. However, the shortage of licensed repair shops in the state and long wait times for repairs can cause serious difficulties for individuals who rely on their powered wheelchairs for their livelihood. Without access to a functioning chair, consumers can become bedridden, increasing their risk of medical complications and hospitalization while also negatively affecting their overall quality of life.

This situation is not unique to California, as many other states face similar issues. The recent passage of the "right to repair" laws, such as the Digital Fair Repair Act in New York,

### Existing Law

Manufacturers are not currently required to provide information or replacement parts directly to consumers or independent repair businesses for power wheelchairs.

### This Bill

SB 1384 would give consumers and independent repair businesses the ability to repair powered wheelchairs without voiding the warranty, by requiring manufacturers to provide information, tools, and replacement parts to an owner or an independent repair provider on fair and reasonable terms and costs.



This legislation mandates that independent repair shops must provide transparent written notices to consumers before conducting any repairs. This measure ensures full disclosure and enables consumers to make informed decisions regarding their devices.

Furthermore, SB 1384 establishes clear guidelines on which parts can and cannot be replaced, prioritizing consumer safety and equipment integrity. By setting these standards, the bill aims to maintain the reliability and safety of repaired wheelchairs.

The Powered Wheelchair Right to Repair bill would positively influence the lives of people who rely on wheelchairs in California, by giving them greater control over the repair and maintenance of their devices. This bill would make it easier and more affordable to repair wheelchairs and would also reduce harmful e-waste and promote sustainability.

Support

Contact

Ana Vazquez, [ana.vazquez@sen.ca.gov](mailto:ana.vazquez@sen.ca.gov)  
916-651-4509



**CALIFORNIA STATE SENATOR**

**ROGER NIELLO**

REPRESENTING THE 6<sup>TH</sup> DISTRICT

## **SB 1393 – CARB ACF Appeals Advisory Committee**

### **SUMMARY**

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SB 1393 creates an appeals advisory committee made up of state agencies, industry experts, fleets and local government to navigate the exemption and extension process for the California Air Resource Board (CARB) Advanced Clean Fleets (ACF) regulation.

### **BACKGROUND**

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[Governor's Executive Order N-79-20](#) imposed multiple strategies and directives to help the state address the climate crisis, including calling on multiple state agencies to impose regulations to help achieve the states climate goals. One such goal is making the move to Zero Emission Vehicles (ZEVs) by certain deadlines. This is being done through CARB with their ACF regulation.

The ACF regulation requires the reduction of emissions through requirements to both phase-in the use of ZEVs for targeted fleets and requirements that manufacturers only manufacture ZEV trucks starting in the 2036 model year.

CARB has created some pathways for narrow exemptions and extensions in certain circumstances. It is a best practice to establish some kind of an appeals process when a regulation grants exemptions and extensions. This process can be particularly helpful and impactful in giving clearer and more feasible pathways to compliance while not diminishing CARB's authority as this is a committee with an advisory role only.

### **PROPOSED SOLUTION**

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This bill would require CARB to establish an appeals advisory committee. This bill would require the committee to meet monthly on an evenly spaced schedule to recommend actions to CARB staff regarding all denied appeals submitted to CARB for exemptions and extensions as allowed for and permitted under the ACF regulation.

The creation of this committee will enable these multiple entities to work together, share best practices and advise CARB on the ACF regulation so real time decisions and adjustments can be made to help make the program successful.

### **CONTACT**

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Sponsor: David Renschler CFPF  
NAFA Fleet Management Association  
707-428-7414

[drenchler@fairfield.ca.gov](mailto:drenchler@fairfield.ca.gov)

**Updated:** 3.5.24



SENATOR  
**CATHERINE BLAKESPEAR**  
SENATE DISTRICT 38



**SB 1426: Waste Diversion Services**  
SUMMARY

SB 1426 boosts the state's recycling efforts by giving Californians more options to divert their waste away from landfills.

BACKGROUND

California has been a national leader in diverting waste from landfills. In addressing the urgent need for waste reduction, California has identified packaging, which constitutes more than half of the volume in the state's public and investor-owned landfills, as a critical issue.

State initiatives, including the landmark SB 54 (Allen, 2021), aim to drastically decrease single-use plastics and improve recycling rates to meet California's recycling and climate goals.

Reducing greenhouse gas emissions is crucial in the fight to limit our climate crisis that is already wreaking havoc on California and the rest of the world. Landfills account for 20% of the state's emissions of methane, a climate-altering super pollutant that is 84 times as potent as carbon dioxide at trapping heat in the atmosphere.

According to CalRecycle, "Reducing short-lived climate super pollutants like organic waste will have the fastest impact on the climate crisis."

SB 1383 (Lara, 2016) aimed to address these challenges head-on by proposing aggressive measures to cut organic

waste in landfills and thereby reduce methane emissions as part of a broader strategy to mitigate the climate crisis swiftly and effectively.

PROBLEM

Not all materials that can be recycled are currently being recycled through existing curbside collection programs, and the state is unable to meet the organic waste diversion goals outlined in SB 1383 by relying on composting alone.

One big problem is that many local jurisdictions and investor-owned landfills are unable to make the infrastructure investments to properly recycle or process materials that are not suitable for curbside collection programs without passing costs on in the form of rate increases on customers. Consequently, they do not pursue them.

But local jurisdictions and investor-owned landfills aren't the only organizations providing waste services. Private companies have stepped into the void to offer innovative waste diversion services, as the state races to meet the goals outlined in SB 54 and SB 1383.

If properly scaled, these services could:

- Reduce contamination of valuable materials in the waste stream.
- Improve compost products by reducing plastic contaminants.
- Help divert commercially generated food waste that is too wet and contaminated for composting.
- Help build responsible end markets.



RURAL COUNTY REPRESENTATIVES  
OF CALIFORNIA

February 13, 2024

The Honorable John Laird  
Member, California State Senate  
1021 O Street, Room 8720  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: Senate Bill 1046 – SUPPORT  
As Introduced February 7, 2024**

Dear Senator Laird:

On behalf of the Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC), we are pleased to support your Senate Bill 1046. This measure seeks to expedite the construction of compost facilities without compromising the stringency of environmental review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). RCRC is an association of forty rural California counties; the RCRC Board of Directors is comprised of elected supervisors from each of those member counties.

Senate Bill 1046 requires CalRecycle to develop a programmatic environmental impact report for small and medium-sized organic waste compost facilities. RCRC supports SB 1046 because we believe it will simplify the process for local permitting of small and medium-sized compost facilities and reduce delays related to environmental review and litigation.

SB 1383 requires the state to reduce landfill disposal of organic waste 75 percent below 2014 levels by 2025. CalRecycle's implementing regulations require local governments to divert organic waste and procure recycled materials derived from that organic waste stream. These requirements are estimated to cost \$20 billion to implement and will require the construction of 50-100 new organic waste recycling facilities. There are many permitting, siting and construction challenges for building new compost facilities, including delays and litigation risk arising from CEQA.

CEQA includes processes by which specific projects can "tier" off a more comprehensive programmatic environmental impact report (EIR). Once a programmatic EIR has been finalized (and any legal challenges resolved), subsequent projects can rely on that document and applicable mitigation measures. As such, subsequent projects do

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The Honorable John Laird  
Senate Bill 1046  
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Page 2

not need to “recreate the wheel” and can instead focus their CEQA analyses on project-specific impacts that were not contemplated and discussed in the programmatic EIR. This approach can reduce costs, the time required for CEQA review, and litigation delays. CalRecycle can draw upon its experience preparing a similar programmatic EIR for anaerobic digestion facilities several years ago. That work, like a similar programmatic EIR prepared by CalFire for vegetation management work, has been very helpful for those seeking to construct anaerobic digestion facilities.

Given the importance the state has assigned to reducing methane emissions from organic waste management - and the significant investments that will be required to achieve those objectives - a small state investment in developing a programmatic EIR for composting facilities will repay itself many times over.

RCRC supports SB 1046 because we believe it will help increase organic waste recycling, reduce pollution, help local governments comply with SB 1383, and create in-state manufacturing jobs. If you should have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at [jkennedy@rcrcnet.org](mailto:jkennedy@rcrcnet.org).

Sincerely,



JOHN KENNEDY  
Senior Policy Advocate

cc: Brynn Cook, Consultant, Senate Environmental Quality Committee  
Scott Seekatz, Consultant, Senate Republican Caucus

**SWANA CALIFORNIA CHAPTERS LEGISLATIVE TASK FORCE MEMBERS  
In Person & Zoom Hybrid Meeting March 21, 2024**

<u>VOTING MEMBER/ CHAPTER</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>ORGANIZATION</u>	<u>PHONE</u>	<u>EMAIL</u>
VM/Gold Rush	Doug Kobold	A	California Product Stewardship Council	916-706-3420	Doug@calpsc.org
VM/Gold Rush	Chris Hanson (C)	X*	Placer County/Western Placer WMA	530-886-4965	CHanson@placer.ca.gov
VM/Gold Rush	Larry Sweetser	X*	Sweetser and Associates/ESJPA	510-703-0898	sweetser@hazman.us
VM/Gold Rush	Charles White	X	Manatt, Phelps, & Phillips, LLC	916-552-2365	cawhite@manatt.com
VM/Gold Rush	Joe La Mariana	X	South Bay Waste Management Authority	650-802-3505	jlamariana@rethinkwaste.org
ALT/Gold Rush	Guy Petraborg	X	Monterey Regional Waste Management District	510-453-5081	gpetraborg@mrwmd.org
ALT/Gold Rush	Deepti Jain	A	City of Sunnyvale	408-730-7791	djain@sunnyvale.ca.gov
VM/Founding	Frank Caponi (T)	X	Retired Solid Waste Professional	562-699-7411	fcaponi5@gmail.com
VM/Founding	Jim Marchese	X	LA Sanitation and Environment	213-847-5174	jim.marchese@lacity.org
VM/Founding	Mike Mohajer	X	Southern California Waste Mgmt. Forum	909-592-1147	mikemohajer@yahoo.com
VM/Founding	Sharon Green (S)	X	LA County Sanitation Districts	562-699-7411	sgreen@lacsds.org
VM/Founding	Jane Fajardo	X	City of San Diego	858-997-3300	jfajardo@sandiego.gov
ALT/Founding	Constance Hornig	X	Law Offices	323-934-4601	hornig@mswesq.com
ALT Founding	Vacant				
VM/Sierra	Monique Gama	X	City of Merced	209-385-8897	gamam@cityofmerced.org
VM/Sierra	Curtis Larkin (VC)	X	Fresno County	559-600-4306	clarkin@fresnocountyca.gov
VM/Sierra	Lynnda Martin	X	American Refuse	661-758-5316	lynnda@americanrefuse.co
VM/Sierra	Dawyne Balch	X*	City of Clovis	559-696-8248	Dawyneb@cityofclovis.com
VM/Sierra	Parveen Sandhu	A	Kings Waste & Recycling Authority	559-410-1117	psandhu@kwrarecycles.net
ALT/Sierra	Keith Hester	A	Caglia Environmental	559-417-8307	khester@cagliarecycling.com
ALT/Sierra	Vacant				
<i>Lobbyist</i>	<i>Priscilla Quiroz</i>	<i>X*</i>	<i>Shaw Yoder Antwih Schmelzer &amp; Lange.</i>	<i>916-446-4656</i>	<i>Priscilla@SYASLpartners.com</i>

\*Joined or left call while meeting was in process.

Note: Phillip Vander Klay (LACSD) joined the meeting

**Chapter Presidents:**

*Gold Rush – Derek Crutchfield – derek.crutchfield@cityofvallejo.net*

*Founding – Michelle Leonard, mleonard@scsengineers.com*

*Sierra Chapter – Dan Amann – damann@fresnocountyca.gov*

Quorum: Eight or more voting members, including at least one member from each chapter, must be present to constitute a quorum.

**VM= Voting Member**

**Ch = Chair**

**VC = Vice Chair**

**T = Treasurer**

**S = Secretary**