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September 22, 2015

Honorable Edmund G. Brown Governor, State of California State Capitol, First Floor Sacramento, California 95814

RE: AB 876 (McCarty): Compostable Organics – Request for Signature

Dear Governor Brown,

I respectfully request your signature on AB 876 which requires municipalities to create a 15-year plan to estimate the amount of compostable waste they will generate and to plan for facilities to process that waste.

California's landmark recycling legislation, the California Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989, set a goal that 75% of all solid waste to be diverted from landfills by 2020. Since that time California has been a leader in diverting recyclable materials, however organic material is still going to landfills.

Last year, AB 1826 (Chesbro) set requirements for businesses to arrange for organic waste to be diverted from the waste stream. The result of AB 1826 and similar efforts will be the diversion of millions of tons of GHG producing materials from landfills. However, without proper planning there will be lack of facilities to accept and properly process organic waste.

By managing our waste streams more effectively, California can significantly reduce its greenhouse gas emissions and fight climate change. The state has made great strides toward reducing waste in landfills by setting organics diversion goals. Currently, cities must conduct this planning for their solid waste and recycling capacity, but not for organic material. This bill would require that composting facilities and anaerobic digestion facilities also be considered in a countywide siting plan.



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AB 876 will ensure that local governments are prepared to implement the state's organics diversion goals and short-lived climate pollutants goals. I respectfully ask for your signature on this important bill.

Sincerely,

John H Danz

John H. Dane, Executive Director

CRRA is California's state-wide recycling association. It is the oldest and one of the largest non-profit recycling organizations in the United States. A 501(c)(3) organization, CRRA is dedicated to achieving environmental sustainability in and beyond California through Zero Waste strategies including product stewardship, waste prevention, reuse, recycling and composting. CRRA advances local, regional and state-wide waste reduction efforts which result in critical environmental and climate protection outcomes. Our members represent all aspects of California's reduce-reuse-recycle-compost economy. They work for cities and counties, as well as hauling companies, material processors, non-profit organizations, state agencies, and in allied professions.