



June 20, 2018

Assemblymember Al Muratsuchi
 Chair, Assembly Natural Resources Committee
 1020 N St, Room 164
 Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SB 168 (Wieckowski) Minimum Recycled Content – SUPPORT

Chair Muratsuchi,

The undersigned organizations are in strong support of Senator Wieckowski’s SB 168, as amended June 19, a bill to support recycling and complement and extend the objectives of California’s Beverage Container Recycling Program.

SB 168 would direct the California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) to establish minimum levels of recycled content for use in the manufacture of all beverage containers, including all plastic beverage containers, by 2021.

While California has reaped great environmental benefits from diverting most beverage containers from the waste and litter stream, analyses by CalRecycle and others demonstrate that the full environmental and economic benefits of recycling are derived from utilizing recycled content in manufacturing.

- Increasing the use of recycled content in PET Plastic bottles by 23% can reduce resulting greenhouse gas emissions (GHG’s) by 10%.
- For every 10% increase in the use recycled glass in the manufacturing process, the resulting GHG’s are reduced by 6-10%.

Existing (35%) recycled content requirements for glass containers has reduced pollution and stimulated ‘closed-loop’ manufacturing in California, whereby better than 85% of glass collected for recycling is returned to California glass manufacturers. Such closed-loop manufacturing has created jobs while reducing energy consumption, air pollution, and greenhouse gas emissions. SB 168 will result in similar outcomes for plastic and other container types.

The timing of SB 168 is especially critical given that the historic overseas market in China for plastic collected for recycling in California has largely stopped all importation. Now is the time to extend the objectives of the Bottle Bill and enhance California's end-use markets for our recycled material.

Accordingly, the undersigned organizations respectfully urge your AYE vote when SB 168 is heard in the Assembly Natural Resources Committee on June 25, 2018.

Sincerely,

Mark Murray
Californians Against Waste

Samantha Sommer
Clean Water Action

Eric Potashner
Recology

Josh Turchin
One Earth Recycling

David Lawrence
rePlanet

Alex Delnik
Verdeco Recycling

Chuck Helget
Republic Services

Dan Jacobson
Environment California

Jena Price
California League of Conservation Voters

Jerry Morano
Fair Street Recycling

Matt Harris
S.L.V. Redemption Recycling Centers

Gary Hughes
Friends of the Earth

Arthur Avetisov
Evergreen Recycling Centers

Steve Moore
Pacific Rim Recycling

Ruth Abbe
Zero Waste USA

Colleen Foster
California Resource Recovery Association

Richard Valle
Tri-CED Community Recycling

Chuck Riegler
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Paul Ou
Boretech Resource Recovery Engineering LLC

Heidi Sanborn
California Product Stewardship Council

cc: Senator Bob Wieckowski
Members, Assembly Natural Resources Committee
Elizabeth MacMillan, Principal Consultant, Assembly Natural Resources Committee