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California Resource Recovery Association

April 15, 2011

Honorable Wesley Chesbro, Chair
Assembly Natural Resources Committee
1020 N Street Room 164
Sacramento, CA 95814
FAX: 916-319-2192

Re: AB 1178 (Ma) Solid Waste - OPPOSE

Dear Assembly Member Chesbro:

The California Resource Recovery Association, founded in 1974, is California's statewide recycling association. It is the oldest and one of the largest non-profit recycling organizations in the United States. 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. CRRA's more than 500 members represent all aspects of California's reduce-reuse-recycle-compost economy. Our members work for over 100 cities, counties and municipal districts, as well as hauling companies, material processors, non-profit organizations, state agencies, and allied professionals.

Local control over the importation of solid wastes has been a valuable tool for local communities to leverage significant waste diversion and recycling activities. AB 1178 would pre-empt just this kind of local control.

State law places the responsibility for ensuring adequate landfill capacity on local governments (counties). That responsibility is best exercised when it is coupled with the authority to make land use choices that are accountable at a local level.

AB 1178 appears to us to be an end run on an established form of local control that has been used to advance waste diversion and recycling, under the guise of ensuring adequate landfill capacity, in order to gain unfettered access to local waste hauling and disposal markets.

CRRA asks you to vote NO on AB 1178.

J. Muir

Julie Muir
President, CRRA

Cc: Members of the Assembly Natural Resources Committee