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April 10, 2009

StopWaste.Org is the Alameda County Waste Management Authority & the Alameda County Source Reduction and Recycling Board operating as one public agency.

Member Agencies
Alameda County

Alameda
Albany
Berkeley
Dublin
Emeryville
Fremont
Hayward
Livermore
Newark
Oakland
Piedmont
Pleasanton
San Leandro
Union City
Castro Valley
Sanitary District
Oro Loma
Sanitary District

Agency Programs

Bay-Friendly Gardening & Landscaping
Green Building in Alameda County
StopWaste Business Partnership
irecycle@school
Environmentally Preferable Purchasing
Food Scrap Recycling
Grants to Non-Profits
Household Hazardous Waste Recycling
Multifamily Recycling
Recycling Information Hotline

This is a copy of the letter that was sent to all of the Alameda County Assembly and Senate Members, and the Senate and Assembly Leadership.

The Alameda County Waste Management Authority supports the addition of wine and liquor bottles to the Beverage Container Recycling and Litter Reduction Act, and urges your support for the introduction and passage of such legislation. The Authority represents the County of Alameda, each of the fourteen cities within the county and two sanitary districts that also provide refuse and recycling services. StopWaste.Org is dedicated to achieving the most environmentally sound solid waste management and resource conservation program for the people of Alameda County. Within this context, the Agency is committed to achieving a 75% and beyond diversion goal and promoting sustainable consumption and disposal patterns.

Including wine and liquor containers in the California Refund Value (CRV) system will help StopWaste.Org achieve our diversion and sustainability goals and will help our member agencies improve the effectiveness and fiscal health of their recycling programs, while helping to reduce the physical, financial and aesthetic blight of litter and storm drain pollution. Increased glass recycling will assist in AB 32 implementation as the use of recycled cullet reduces energy demand in the making of new bottles. Increased glass recycling will also have a positive economic impact in Alameda County as two major glass processors and a major bottle plant are located here. Inclusion of these containers in the CRV system will be a win for local governments, a win for the environment and a win for the economy.

The Authority Board approved the attached resolution at their March 25, 2009 meeting. We look forward to working with you to implement this beneficial, common sense measure.

Sincerely

Gary Wolff
Executive Director

Attachment

cc: Bridgett Luther
Mark Leary, and members of CIWMB
Mark Murray
Richard Valle
Mark Green

ALAMEDA COUNTY WASTE MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY BOARD

RESOLUTION #WMA 2009-2

MOVED: Green

SECONDED: Santos

AT THE MEETING HELD MARCH 25, 2009

**RESOLUTION URGING THE CALIFORNIA STATE LEGISLATURE TO
INTRODUCE AND SUPPORT LEGISLATION TO INCLUDE WINE AND LIQUOR
BOTTLES IN THE BEVERAGE CONTAINER RECYCLING AND LITTER
REDUCTION ACT**

WHEREAS, California's Bottle Bill incentivizes the recycling of containers by putting a redemption value ("CRV") on containers that is redeemed by consumers when recycled; and,

WHEREAS, nearly 500,000 tons of non-CRV wine and liquor containers are distributed annually in the state; and,

WHEREAS, Less than 30% of non-CRV glass containers are recycled, while almost 80% of CRV glass containers are recycled; and,

WHEREAS, Adding wine and liquor bottles to the CRV Program would increase total glass recycling in California by up to 200,000 tons annually; and,

WHEREAS, Increasing the recycling of glass will reduce energy consumption, save natural resources and decrease the amount of material deposited in landfills; and,

WHEREAS, Wine and liquor bottles are a significant and dangerous component of urban litter; and,

WHEREAS, Including wine and liquor bottles in the CRV program will significantly reduce their littering and help to create jobs;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Alameda County Waste Management Authority hereby urges its State Assembly Members and Senators, by letter and receipt of this resolution, to introduce and support legislation adding wine and liquor containers to the Beverage Container Recycling and Litter Reduction Act.


ADOPTED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: Carson, Wile, Waespi, Bukowski, Natarajan, Henson, Leider, Freitas, Quan, Sullivan, Landis, Santos, Johnson, Wozniak, Green

NOES: None

ABSENT: Biddle, Keating

ABSTAINED: None



Gary Wolff, Executive Director