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May 26, 2021

**AB 480 (Carrillo) – Hazardous Substances**  
As Amended April 24, 2021 – **SUPPORT**  
Assembly Third Reading File

The California State Association of Counties (CSAC) representing all 58 counties in California, is pleased to support AB 480 (Carrillo) which would strengthen the authority for local agencies to take immediate action against local threats to the public's health and safety. This includes the ability for local jurisdictions to direct a facility, or a portion of a facility, to temporarily discontinue the operations that cause an exposure to hazardous waste or materials.

Local certified Unified Program Agency (CUPAs) are responsible for implementing and enforcing hazardous materials and waste laws, and the county Local Health Officer has general authority to protect the public's health, and expanded authority in cases of a declared emergency. In some cases though, a facility that poses a substantial endangerment to public health and safety can continue to operate because they do not meet the minimum standards to immediately, and temporarily, cease operations. Cases have been documented where the local county health officer, and the CUPA, issued notices of violation but did not have the authority to direct the facility to cease operations.

Counties recognize and have supported laws enacted to protect the public from the adverse and deleterious health effects of pollution. CSAC supports efforts to increase the tools that local governments have to take emergency measures when necessary to protect public health. It is for these reasons that we support AB 480 and respectfully requests your **"AYE"** vote when it comes before you on the Assembly floor. Should you have any questions regarding our position, please contact Catherine Freeman at 916-662-6400 or at [cfreeman@counties.org](mailto:cfreeman@counties.org).

CC The Honorable Wendy Carillo, California State Assembly