



RURAL COUNTY REPRESENTATIVES
OF CALIFORNIA

May 13, 2024

The Honorable Catherine Blakespear
Member, California State Senate
1021 O Street, Room 7340
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: Senate Bill 1045 – SUPPORT
As Amended April 29, 2024**

Dear Senator Blakespear:

On behalf of the Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC), we are pleased to support your Senate Bill 1045 regarding organic waste. RCRC is an association of forty rural California counties; the RCRC Board of Directors is comprised of elected supervisors from each of those member counties.

Senate Bill 1045 requires the Office of Planning and Research to develop sample general plan goals, policies, and implementation measures and a model ordinance that reflects best practices for the siting of composting facilities. Local governments shall consider those best practices when they perform the next substantive revision of their land use elements on or after January 1, 2028. Local governments shall also consider updating land use elements to identify areas where composting facilities may be appropriate as an allowable use.

RCRC believes SB 1046 will provide local governments with more tools to facilitate the siting of compost facilities. SB 1383 requires the state to reduce landfill disposal of organic waste 75 percent below 2014 levels by 2025. CalRecycle's implementing regulations require local governments to divert organic waste and procure recycled materials derived from that organic waste stream. These requirements are estimated to cost \$20 billion to implement and will require the construction of 50-100 new organic waste recycling facilities. There are many permitting, siting and construction challenges for building new compost facilities – some of which revolve around the location of the facility and its proximity to potentially competing land uses.

Given the importance the state has assigned to reducing methane emissions from organic waste management - and the significant investments that will be required to

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achieve those objectives, we believe that SB 1046 will help the state and local agencies achieve those goals.

We sincerely appreciate your efforts to address concerns RCRC had with previous versions of the bill and are pleased to support the current framework of SB 1045. If you should have any questions, please contact me at jkennedy@rcrcnet.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "John Kennedy". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping "J" and "K".

JOHN KENNEDY
Senior Policy Advocate