



June 5, 2023

The Honorable Ben Allen  
Chair, Senate Environmental Quality Committee  
1021 O Street, Suite 3230  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: Assembly Bill 1548 (Hart) – SUPPORT  
As Amended April 20, 2023**

Dear Senator Allen:

On behalf of the Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC), South Bayside Waste Management Authority (ReThinkWaste), Solid Waste Association of North America Legislative Task Force – California Chapters (SWANA), Western Placer Waste Management Authority (WPWMA), California State Association of Counties (CSAC), and the League of California Cities (CalCities) we are pleased to support Assembly Bill 1548 (Hart), regarding CalRecycle’s grant program for solid and organic waste recycling.

Assembly Bill 1548 expands CalRecycle’s existing solid and organic waste recycling grant program to help local governments get recycled material into the marketplace, find new homes for useful consumer goods, and expand local edible food recovery programs.

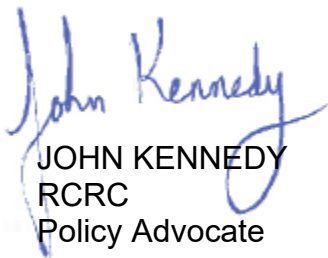
AB 1548 will help locals procure and install infrastructure that will expand the amount and diversity of recyclable materials that can be sent back into the marketplace to make new products. While CalRecycle’s grant program already helps fund manufacturers who use recycled materials, it does not currently provide funding to help locals get those materials into the marketplace. AB 1548 closes an eligibility gap that will help locals, the state, and manufacturers better achieve the state’s recycling and circular economy goals.

AB 1548 could also help local governments secure state funding to develop reuse programs to keep useful consumer goods out of the landfill. For example, Yolo County established a Big Blue Barn Thrift Store at their county landfill to divert materials from landfill disposal by offering them back to the public for a second life. Items offered a second life include bicycles, toys, sporting goods and equipment, clean wood, doors, windows, flooring, lamps, electronics, furniture, office supplies, cabinetry, tools, housewares, etc. This program could be replicated by other local governments to help the state achieve its diversion and reuse goals.

Finally, AB 1548 clarifies that CalRecycle's grant program may be used to purchase equipment and construct facilities to build or expand edible food recovery programs. As local governments develop SB 1383 programs, this funding will help us meet infrastructure and capacity challenges to get recovered food to hungry Californians.

For these reasons, we are pleased to support AB 1548 and respectfully request your "Aye" vote when this measure is heard before your committee.

Sincerely,



JOHN KENNEDY  
RCRC  
Policy Advocate



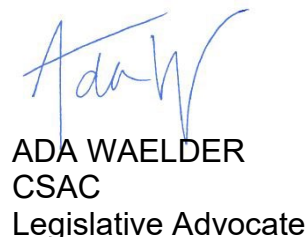
JOE LA MARIANA  
ReThinkWaste  
Executive Director



CHRISTINA HANSON  
SWANA CALIFORNIALTF  
Chair



KEVIN BELL  
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Deputy Executive Director



ADA WAELDER  
CSAC  
Legislative Advocate



NICK ROMO  
CALCITIES  
Legislative Representative

cc: The Honorable Gregg Hart, Member of the California State Assembly  
Members of the Senate Environmental Quality Committee  
Brynn Cook, Consultant, Senate Environmental Quality Committee  
Scott Seekatz, Consultant, Senate Republican Caucus