



RURAL COUNTY REPRESENTATIVES
OF CALIFORNIA

June 3, 2024

The Honorable Isaac Bryan
Chair, Assembly Natural Resources Committee
1020 N Street, Room 164
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: Senate Bill 1175 – Support
As Amended May 13, 2024**

Dear Assembly Member Bryan:

On behalf of the Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC), we are pleased to support Senate Bill 1175, regarding organic waste management. RCRC is an association of forty rural California counties and the RCRC Board of Directors is comprised of elected supervisors from each of those member counties.

Senate Bill 1175 simply provides CalRecycle and local governments with greater flexibility to tailor SB 1383 low population waivers to meet specific local situations. SB 1383 requires the state to reduce landfill disposal of organic waste 75 percent below 2014 levels by 2025. CalRecycle's implementing regulations are generally tailored to dovetail within the solid waste collection system that exists in urban areas, but they are sometimes poorly suited to deal with the needs and challenges of lower-population and rural areas and afford very little flexibility for those situations. As a result, the greatest implementation challenges and highest anticipated rate increases will occur in rural and sparsely populated areas of the state.

Under current law, CalRecycle may grant waivers from SB 1383's collection requirements for low-population jurisdictions. For unincorporated areas, waivers are available for census tracts that have a population density of less than 75 persons per square mile. Unfortunately, this census tract-based approach results in many sparsely populated rural areas being ineligible for the exemption because a portion of the census tract is embedded in a densely populated city or census designated place. SB 1175 provides more flexibility to CalRecycle and to local governments to allow for consideration of alternative boundaries and methodologies for determining eligibility. This will ensure that some of those parts of the state that are the most difficult and expensive to serve have access to CalRecycle's waiver process.

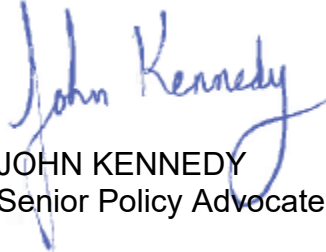
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For these reasons, RCRC is pleased to support SB 1175. If you should have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at jkennedy@rcrcnet.org.

Sincerely,



JOHN KENNEDY
Senior Policy Advocate

cc: The Honorable Roscilie Ochoa-Bogh
The Honorable Brian Dahle, California State Senate
The Honorable Tom Lackey, California State Assembly
Members of the Assembly Natural Resources Committee
Lawrence Lingbloom, Chief Consultant, Assembly Natural Resources Committee
Casey Dunn, Consultant, Assembly Republican Caucus Office of Policy and Budget