

COUNTY OF EL DORADO

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April 7, 2020

The Honorable Brian Dahle
Member, California State Senate
State Capitol, Room 2054
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: Senate Bill 1191 – SUPPORT
As Amended March 23, 2020**

Dear Senator Dahle:

On behalf of the El Dorado County Board of Supervisors, we send this letter to express our support for your Senate Bill 1191, related to organic waste management.

Senate Bill 1383 (Lara) of 2016 requires the state to reduce landfill disposal of organic waste 75 percent by 2025 and to increase edible food waste recovery 20 percent. The California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) is on the verge of adopting far-reaching regulations to achieve those objectives and has estimated that it will cost as much as \$40 billion over the next decade and will require adding 50-100 new organic waste recycling facilities. These requirements pose many financial and implementation challenges for local governments across the state.

SB 1191 allows low population counties and rural jurisdictions to develop and implement alternative organic waste management programs in place of the rigid and costly SB 1383 mandates. Additionally, SB 1191 aligns CalRecycle's organic waste management statute to conform it to long-standing provisions that require CalRecycle to consider whether a jurisdiction made a "good faith effort" to implement its recycling program before issuing a compliance order or imposing penalties.

The new SB 1383 regulations will impose a host of costly new requirements on local governments and will substantially drive up residential service rates – especially in areas that lack the population densities. While these jurisdictions may not have the economic resources to fully implement SB 1383, they can play a key role in developing the organic waste recycling

capacity and markets to meet the overarching objectives. SB 1191 will temporarily allow those jurisdictions to implement alternative organic waste management programs that recover edible food waste, evaluate collaborative approaches to organic waste recycling for animal feed and compost production, and explore opportunities for siting new regional organic waste facilities and markets.

Additionally, SB 1191 appropriately requires CalRecycle to consider whether a jurisdiction made a “good faith effort” to implement its organic waste recycling program before issuing a compliance order or imposing penalties on that jurisdiction. This “good faith” evaluation has long been a part of the state’s solid waste diversion program.

For these reasons, we support your SB 1191.

Sincerely,

Brian K. Veerkamp,
Chair, El Dorado County Board of Supervisors

cc
Members of the Senate Environmental Quality Committee
Genevieve Wong, Consultant, Senate Environmental Quality Committee
Scott Seekatz, Consultant, Senate Republican Caucus