

Agenda Item 3A: State Advocacy Letters

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Second District

DOREEN FARR
Third District, Vice Chair

PETER ADAM
Fourth District, Chair

STEVE LAVAGNINO
Fifth District



COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
County Administration Building
105 East Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
Telephone: (805) 568-2190
www.countyofsb.org

April 13, 2016

Honorable Philip Ting
Assemblymember, 19th District
State Capitol
P.O. Box 942849
Sacramento, CA 94249

FAX No.: (916) 319-2119

RE: AB 2039 Solid waste: home-generated sharps – SUPPORT

Dear Assemblymember Ting:

I am writing on behalf of the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors to support Assembly Bill 2039 Solid waste: home-generated sharps, which is an Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) bill for home-generated sharps waste (e.g. hypodermic needles, pen needles, lancets, and other such items that may carry human blood, fluids, and tissues infected with pathogens).

In 2008, home-generated sharps were banned from trash disposal in California. Used sharps can carry infectious and deadly diseases. When improperly disposed, they pose a tremendous health risk to solid waste workers and the general public. Individuals who are accidentally pricked must undergo a series of blood tests and medical exams to determine whether they have been infected by any of a number of blood-borne pathogens. This process is not only stressful for the victim but can also be very costly for employers and insurers.

The County of Santa Barbara has operated a home-generated sharps collection program for over a decade. The County supplies collection containers to the public, free of charge, and collects and disposes of the containers when full. The program is very successful, annually collecting thousands of pounds of used sharps. The program, however, is also costly. Distribution of the sharps collection containers alone costs the County approximately \$12,000 each year. Additionally, the County must cover disposal fees and staff costs to manage the program.

In 2011, our Board of Supervisors adopted a resolution supporting Extended Producer Responsibility, and we have actively supported legislation like AB 2039 that requires manufacturers to play a greater role in managing their products at the end of life. We strongly believe that AB 2039 is the right solution for addressing the problematic sharps waste stream, as it requires those who produce and profit from these products to share in the responsibility for safely disposing of them.

EPR a public policy approach that has already been implemented statewide for mercury thermostats, paint, carpet, and mattresses. Additionally, six counties have adopted EPR ordinances for pharmaceuticals; two of

them, Alameda and Santa Cruz, also include sharps. Our county is currently working to pass a pharmaceuticals EPR ordinance locally. Unfortunately, the industry's voluntary measures to support the safe disposal of sharps are not working. SB 486 (Simitian, 2009) required pharmaceutical manufacturers that sell or distribute medications that are self-injected to submit a plan describing how the manufacturer supports the safe collection and disposal of sharps. Third party reviewers routinely evaluate and grade the plans. In the last grading, 20 out of the 31 plans submitted received a failing "F" grade.

This problem is not going away. The California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) estimates that self-injectors in California use 936 million sharps each year. Of those, an estimated 43% (or approximately 400 million) are annually thrown in the trash, and one study documented that 7% of needles were flushed into wastewater systems.

AB 2039 is a flexible solution that allows manufacturers to develop their own programs. Rather than establishing a command-and-control regulatory construct, this bill takes a performance-based approach that allows for maximum flexibility as manufacturers implement the bill's requirements.

For these reasons, Santa Barbara County supports AB 2039. If you have questions about the Board's position, please contact the County's Legislative Coordinator, Joseph Toney at 805-568-2060 or jtoney@countyofsb.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peter Adam", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Peter Adam

Chair, Board of Supervisors

cc: Assemblymember Luis Alejo, Chair, Committee on Environmental Safety and Toxic Materials
Senator Hannah-Beth Jackson, 19th Senate District
Assemblymember Katcho Achadjian, 35th Assembly District
Assemblymember Das Williams, 37th Assembly District
Members, County of Santa Barbara Board of Supervisors
Mona Miyasato, County Executive Officer
Takashi Wada MD MPH, Director, Public Health Department
Cliff Berg, Governmental Advocates
Cara Martinson, California State Association of Counties
Heidi Sanborn, California Product Stewardship Council

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April 14, 2016

The Honorable Richard Bloom
Assemblymember, 50th District
State Capitol
P.O. Box 942849
Sacramento, CA 94249

FAX No.: (916) 319-2150

RE: ABX2 10 Local taxes: authorization: cigarettes and tobacco products – SUPPORT

Dear Assemblymember Bloom:

I am writing on behalf of the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors to support Assembly Bill 10 Local taxes: authorization: cigarettes and tobacco products, which will grant County Board of Supervisors the authority to place local tobacco tax measures on the ballot for a public vote.

This bill will allow counties leeway on how they want to collect, and administer a tax on tobacco and cigarette distribution. Such a tax could potentially produce funding in the millions for individual counties. Providing counties the option to produce new revenue has the potential to improve fiscal stability for the County of Santa Barbara, which is support by the County's 2016 Legislative Platform.

For these reasons, Santa Barbara County supports ABX2 10. If you have questions about the Board's position, please contact the County's Legislative Coordinator, Joseph Toney at 805-568-2060 or jtoney@countyofsb.org.

Sincerely,

Peter Adam
Chair, Board of Supervisors

cc: Senator Hannah-Beth Jackson, 19th Senate District
Assemblymember Katcho Achadjian, 35th Assembly District
Assemblymember Das Williams, 37th Assembly District
Members, County of Santa Barbara Board of Supervisors
Mona Miyasato, County Executive Officer
Cliff Berg, Governmental Advocates

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April 13, 2016

Senator Ted Gaines
State Capitol, Rm 3070
Sacramento, CA 95814

FAX No.: (916) 651-4901

RE: SB 811 Unmanned aircraft systems: correctional facilities – SUPPORT

Dear Senator Gaines:

I am writing on behalf of the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors to support Senate Bill 811 Unmanned aircraft systems: correctional facilities. SB 811 would make it a misdemeanor to operate an unmanned aircraft system on or above the grounds of a state prison or a jail.

The proposed bill would improve safety and confidentiality for inmates and detainees. The bill will also address the recent use of drones to drop contraband into prisons or jails. Such an action will help security catch up to the technology. The County also requests that the bill be amended to include all Juvenile and Adult Correctional Facilities so that there is no limitation on the safety and security improvement.

For these reasons, Santa Barbara County supports SB 811 and respectfully requests amendment. If you have questions about the Board's position, please contact the County's Legislative Coordinator, Joseph Toney at 805-568-2060 or jtoney@countyofsb.org.

Sincerely,

Peter Adam
Chair, Board of Supervisors

cc: Senator Hannah-Beth Jackson, 19th Senate District
Assemblymember Katcho Achadjian, 35th Assembly District
Assemblymember Das Williams, 37th Assembly District
Members, County of Santa Barbara Board of Supervisors
Mona Miyasato, County Executive Officer
Cliff Berg, Governmental Advocates
Guadalupe Rabago, Chief Probation Officer

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April 14, 2016

The Honorable Richard Roth
Senator, 31st District
State Capitol, Room 4034
Sacramento, CA 95814

FAX No.: (916) 651-4931

RE: SB 867 Emergency medical services – SUPPORT

Dear Senator Roth:

I am writing on behalf of the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors to support Senate Bill 867 Emergency medical services, which will allow the Richie Pediatric Trauma Fund to continue past its sunset date of January 1, 2017.

Existing law establishes the Maddy Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Fund, and authorizes each county to establish an emergency medical services fund for reimbursement of costs related to emergency medical services. The Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors approved and authorized an agreement with Santa Barbara Cottage Hospital Level II Pediatric Trauma Center to receive Maddy Fund distributions pursuant to the Richie Pediatric Trauma Fund legislation. This bill will allow the County's Public Health Department to continue to distribute pediatric trauma funds to support local pediatric trauma services.

For these reasons, Santa Barbara County supports SB 867. If you have questions about the Board's position, please contact the County's Legislative Coordinator, Joseph Toney at 805-568-2060 or jtoney@countyofsb.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Peter Adam", with a long, sweeping underline.

Peter Adam
Chair, Board of Supervisors

cc: Senator Hannah-Beth Jackson, 19th Senate District
Assemblymember Katcho Achadjian, 35th Assembly District
Assemblymember Das Williams, 37th Assembly District
Members, County of Santa Barbara Board of Supervisors
Mona Miyasato, County Executive Officer
Takashi Wada MD MPH, Director, Public Health Department
Cliff Berg, Governmental Advocates

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April 13, 2016

Senator Holly Mitchell
State Capitol, Rm 5080
Sacramento, CA 95814

FAX No.: (916) 651-4930

RE: SB 941 Juveniles – OPPOSE

Dear Senator Mitchell:

I am writing on behalf of the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors to oppose Senate Bill 941 Juveniles. SB 941 would remove local control and cause a negative fiscal impact to the County.

The proposed bill would have fees related to local home detention programs be only payable by adults. SB 941 would remove the County's ability to send Institution accounts to the FTB COD leaving accounts uncollectible. The bill also repeals the following: \$100 per day fee for parents who refuse to pick up their minor children from the County's Juvenile Hall or Los Prietos Boys' Camp, the public defender fees paid by parents for their minor child's legal representation, and the Foster Parent training fund. The changes will reduce local control and fiscal stability that the County does not support in the adopted 2016 Legislative Platform.

For these reasons, Santa Barbara County opposes SB 941. If you have questions about the Board's position, please contact the County's Legislative Coordinator, Joseph Toney at 805-568-2060 or jtoney@countyofsb.org.

Sincerely,

Peter Adam
Chair, Board of Supervisors

cc: Senator Hannah-Beth Jackson, 19th Senate District
Assemblymember Katcho Achadjian, 35th Assembly District
Assemblymember Das Williams, 37th Assembly District
Members, County of Santa Barbara Board of Supervisors
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April 14, 2016

The Honorable Bill Monning
Senator, 17th District
State Capitol, Room 313
Sacramento, CA 95814

FAX No.: (916) 651-4917

RE: SB 968 Diablo Canyon Units 1 and 2 powerplant – SUPPORT

Dear Senator Monning:

I am writing on behalf of the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors to support Senate Bill 968 Diablo Canyon Units 1 and 2 powerplant, which will require the Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) to submit to the California Public Utilities Commission an assessment of the adverse economic impacts that could occur in the San Luis Obispo County region if the Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant were to temporarily or permanently shut down.

It is critical that state regulators and the public be informed about the potential adverse economic impacts should the plant not be in operation and how to best mitigate these impacts. A comprehensive assessment of the economic impacts to the region will provide for preparation of contingency plans by local jurisdictions for potential temporary or permanent shut down.

For these reasons, Santa Barbara County supports SB 968. If you have questions about the Board's position, please contact the County's Legislative Coordinator, Joseph Toney at 805-568-2060 or jtoney@countyofsb.org.

Sincerely,

Peter Adam
Chair, Board of Supervisors

cc: Senator Hannah-Beth Jackson, 19th Senate District
Assemblymember Katcho Achadjian, 35th Assembly District
Assemblymember Das Williams, 37th Assembly District
Members, County of Santa Barbara Board of Supervisors
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Cliff Berg, Governmental Advocates

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April 13, 2016

Senator Hannah-Beth Jackson
State Capitol, Rm 2032
Sacramento, CA 95814

Fax No.: (916) 651-4919

RE: SB 1229 Home-generated pharmaceutical waste: secure drug take-back bins – SUPPORT

Dear Senator Jackson:

I am writing on behalf of the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors to support Senate Bill 1229 Home-generated pharmaceutical waste: secure drug take-back bins, which would establish a duty of care for pharmacies that host drug take-back bins.

Prescription and over the counter drugs that are left over from treatment or have expired are an increasing problem. These drugs have been used recreationally and/or they are ending up in water systems impacting the environment and our water supply.

Santa Barbara County has explored the extent of this problem and in our community. In May of 2015, our Board received a report on the harmful impact of unused medications. On October 6, 2015, the Board received a report on local stakeholder outreach on this issue. The Board directed the Public Health Department to draft an extended producer responsibility ordinance for a sustainable and convenient program for the safe disposal of unused household medications in Santa Barbara County. This item will be coming before the Board soon. Passage of SB1229 will make the disposal of medications, including opioids and other controlled substances, easier and more convenient while helping to reduce the misuse of medication and the rise in overdoses deaths.

For these reasons, Santa Barbara County supports SB 1229. If you have questions about the Board's position, please contact the County's Legislative Coordinator, Joseph Toney at 805-568-2060 or jtoney@countyofsb.org.

Sincerely,



Peter Adam
Chair, Board of Supervisors

cc: Senator Bob Wieckowski, Chair, Senate Environmental Quality Committee
Senator Ted Gaines, Vice Chair, Senate Environmental Quality Committee
Assemblymember Katcho Achadjian, 35th Assembly District
Assemblymember Das Williams, 37th Assembly District
Members, County of Santa Barbara Board of Supervisors
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Cliff Berg, Governmental Advocates