



CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS

455 NORTH REXFORD DRIVE ▪ BEVERLY HILLS, CALIFORNIA 90210

Robert Wunderlich, Mayor

August 18, 2021

The Honorable John Laird
California State Senate, 17th District
State Capitol, Room 4040
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: SB 619 (Laird) Organic waste: reduction regulations
City of Beverly Hills – SUPPORT

Dear Senator Laird,

On behalf of the City of Beverly Hills, I am pleased to write to you in SUPPORT of your SB 619, which would prohibit the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) from imposing penalties against local jurisdictions that have not met the organic waste recycling requirements pursuant to SB 1383 (Lara, 2016), unless the jurisdiction did not make a reasonable effort to comply.

SB 1383 (Lara, 2016) requires CalRecycle in consultation with the California Air Resources Board to adopt regulations to reduce emissions of short-lived climate pollutants in the state to achieve a reduction in statewide emissions of methane by 40%. It also directs CalRecycle to divert 75% of organics from landfill and recover 20% of edible food for human consumption by 2025. Jurisdictions are the primary entities responsible for implementation and enforcement of SB 1383 requirements, which affect all organic waste generators in the residential and commercial sectors. On November 3, 2020, CalRecycle released the SB 1383 Organic Waste Diversion Regulations to accomplish these goals, which will take effect on January 1, 2022, only giving jurisdictions thirteen months to fully implement various facets of the regulations.

The City of Beverly Hills has been working diligently to implement SB 1383 and committed to fully implement the program. However, the timelines in SB 1383 and the Regulations currently do not take into account the COVID-19 pandemic and the challenges it has caused for jurisdictions to comply. For these reasons, we believe a reasonable accommodation of additional time and flexibility is needed to implement this program.

For these reasons, the City of Beverly Hills is pleased to SUPPORT your SB 619. Thank you for authoring this important measure.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert Wunderlich".

Robert Wunderlich
Mayor, City of Beverly Hills

cc: Members and Consultants, Assembly Appropriations Committee
Members and Consultants, Assembly Natural Resources Committee
The Honorable Ben Allen, 26th Senate District
The Honorable Richard Bloom, 50th Assembly District
Andrew K. Antwih, Shaw Yoder Antwih Schmelzer & Lange