



# MAYOR REX RICHARDSON

July 17, 2024

The Honorable Ben Allen  
California State Senate  
1021 O Street, Suite 6610  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: Support for SB 1143 (Allen)—Household Hazardous Waste Producer Responsibility Act**

Dear Senator Allen,

On behalf of the City of Long Beach (City), I write to express support for SB 1143, which would require producers of household hazardous wastes (HHW) to develop an expanded producer responsibility program for the purposes of providing a convenient collection and management system for HHW at no cost to residents or local governments.

HHW is a broad category of many common products used daily by consumers that contain hazardous materials, such as antifreeze, adhesives, pesticides, used oil, batteries, electronic wastes, and household cleaners—to name a few. In California, HHW is prohibited from being disposed of in the trash, down the drain, or onto the ground, and must be disposed of through a HHW Program that provides for the safe collection and management of HHW. Most HHW programs are run by local government agencies. When illegally or improperly disposed of, chemicals in HHW can be released into the environment and contaminate our air, water, and food supply. Improperly disposed HHW exposes recycling and waste workers to avoidable dangers, such as fires.

HHW programs are a significant continuing expense. Each HHW event can cost upwards of \$120,000. SB 1143 will shift the cost burden of managing HHW disposal from local jurisdictions and ratepayers to the producers. SB 1143 requires these manufacturers to establish a producer responsibility plan for the collection, transportation, and the safe and proper management of covered products pursuant to the Household Hazardous Waste Producer Responsibility Act and submitted to CalRecycle for approval. The plan requires a producer responsibility organization to decrease the aggregate percentage of covered products improperly disposed of or dumped by 20 percent by 2032 and 40 percent by 2035.

SB 1143 will help ensure the safe and proper management of HHW. SB 1143 will also fund the education program expenses incurred by the City to educate consumers on the safe and proper management of HHW.

For these reasons, the City supports SB 1143.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rex Richardson", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Mayor Rex Richardson  
City of Long Beach

cc: The Honorable Lena Gonzalez, State Senate, 33<sup>rd</sup> District  
The Honorable Mike Gipson, State Assembly, 65<sup>th</sup> District  
The Honorable Josh Lowenthal, State Assembly, 69<sup>th</sup> District