

RESOLUTION NO. 09-85

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF HILLSBOROUGH
SUPPORTING EXTENDED PRODUCER RESPONSIBILITY CAMPAIGN SHIFTING
HAZARDOUS WASTE MANAGEMENT COSTS FROM LOCAL GOVERNMENT
TO THE PRODUCER OF THE PRODUCT

WHEREAS, on February 8, 2006, California's Universal Waste Rule (CCR, Title 22, Division 4.5, Chapter 23) became effective; and

WHEREAS, the Universal Waste Rule bans landfill disposal of certain products that are deemed hazardous, including household batteries, fluorescent bulbs and tubes, thermostats, and other items that contain mercury, as well as electronic devices, such as video cassette recorders, microwave ovens, cellular phones, cordless phones, printers, and radios; and

WHEREAS, universal waste management costs are currently funded by the residential rate payers of the Town of Hillsborough and costs are expected to increase in the short term unless policy changes are made; and

WHEREAS, it is anticipated that the list of universal waste determined to be hazardous and, therefore, banned from landfills will continue to grow with the burden to manage these universal wastes falling on the rate payers of local jurisdictions; and

WHEREAS, the Association of Bay Area Governments, the California Integrated Waste Management Board and the California Product Stewardship Council are spearheading a campaign to increase awareness about the escalating costs of universal waste disposal to local governments; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Hillsborough supports statewide efforts to hold producers responsible for universal waste management costs; and

WHEREAS, there are significant environmental and human health impacts associated with improper management of universal waste; and

WHEREAS, since local government ratepayers, rather than product manufacturers, currently bear the costs to properly manage universal waste, local governments are in effect subsidizing the production of universal waste; and

WHEREAS, Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) is a policy approach in which producers assume responsibility for management of waste products; and

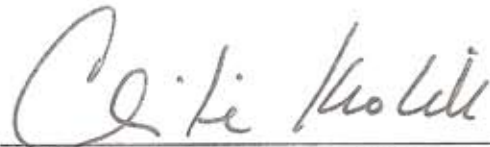
WHEREAS, when producers are responsible for ensuring their products are reused or recycled responsibly, and when health and environmental costs are included in the product price, there is an incentive to design and purchase goods that are more durable, easier to recycle, and less toxic; and

WHEREAS, it is timely to develop and support EPR legislation to address product stewardship for hazardous products currently banned from landfill disposal, and those which will be added to the list of banned items in the future; and

WHEREAS, the California Integrated Waste Management Board is currently considering sponsoring EPR legislation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,

1. That the City Council of Town of Hillsborough urges California legislative representatives to support extended producer responsibility legislation that shifts universal waste management costs from local government to the producer of the product, which will give producers the incentive to design products to make them less toxic and easier to recycle; and
2. The City Clerk is hereby directed to forward a copy of this resolution to the California Integrated Waste Management Board, the California Product Stewardship Council and the League of California Cities.



Mayor of the Town of Hillsborough



Attest: City Clerk

This resolution was adopted by the City Council of the Town of Hillsborough at its regular meeting held on the 12th of October 2009, by the following vote of the members thereof:

AYES: Councilmembers Krolik, Regan, Benton

NOES: Councilmembers None

ABSENT: Councilmembers Kasten, Fannon

ABSTAIN: Councilmembers None