

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF CONTRA COSTA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA
and for Special Districts, Agencies and Authorities Governed by the Board

C.19

Adopted this Resolution on 04/27/2010 by the following vote:

AYES: 5
John Gioia
Gayle B. Uilkema
Mary N. Piepho
Susan A. Bonilla
Federal D. Glover

NOES:
ABSENT:
ABSTAIN:
RECUSE:



Resolution No. 2010/225

In The Matter of Supporting Extended Producer Responsibility

WHEREAS, approximately 1813 tons of discarded toxic materials and products were collected from our county during 2008 at a cost of approximately \$1,563.01 per ton; and

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, it is anticipated that the list of Universal and other waste products determined to be hazardous and therefore banned from landfills will continue to grow as demonstrated by the ban of treated wood effective January 2007 and sharps in September 2008; and

WHEREAS, state policies currently make local governments responsible for achieving waste diversion goals and enforcing product disposal bans, both of which are unfunded mandates; and

WHEREAS, Universal Waste management costs are currently paid by taxpayers and rate payers and are expected to increase substantially in the short term unless policy changes are made; and

WHEREAS, local governments do not have the resources to adequately address the rising volume of discarded products; and

WHEREAS, there are significant environmental and human health impacts associated with improper management of Universal Waste, sharps, and other products; and

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

WHEREAS, when products are reused or recycled responsibly, and when health and environmental costs are included in the product price, there is an incentive to design products that are more durable, easier to repair and recycle, and less toxic.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CONTRA COSTA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS that by adoption of this Resolution, the Board of Supervisors does formally acknowledge support the concept of Extended Producer Responsibility.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors encourages all manufacturers to share in the responsibility for eliminating waste through minimizing excess packaging, designing products for durability, reusability and the ability to be recycled; using recycled materials in the manufacture of new products; and providing financial support for collection, processing, recycling, or disposal of used materials.

I hereby certify that this is a true and correct copy of an action taken and entered on the minutes of the Board of Supervisors on the date shown.

Contact: LEA CASTLEBERRY, 820-8683

ATTESTED: April 27, 2010

David J. Twa, County Administrator and Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

Katherine Sinclair
By: KATHERINE SINCLAIR, Deputy

cc: