

In the matter of a Resolution in support of Product Stewardship and Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) legislation designed to shift the financial disposal burden of household hazardous waste, universal waste and other problematic products from cities and counties to manufacturers and producers of the products. Resolution No. 2010- 188

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 banned landfill disposal of certain products that are deemed hazardous, including household batteries, fluorescent bulbs and tubes, thermostats and other items that contain mercury. In addition, electronic devices such as televisions, cell phones, microwave ovens, printers and computers have been banned from landfills and products referred to as, "Sharps" such as hypodermic needles, have also been banned due to the potential danger to the public and sanitation workers when improperly disposed; and


WHEREAS, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) estimates that approximately 75% of today's waste stream comes from these types of products and the list is expected to grow; 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. However, local governments do not have the resources to adequately address the rising volume of discarded products. These costs are currently paid by taxpayers and ratepayers and are expected to increase substantially in the short term unless policy changes are made; and

WHEREAS, Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) has proven to be an effective policy solution in which producers assume financial responsibility for management of waste products.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Placer, on behalf of the citizens of Placer County, supports Product Stewardship and Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) legislation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Placer, on behalf of the citizens of Placer County, urges the California Legislature to enact framework EPR legislation which will give producers the incentive to design products to make them less toxic and easier to reuse and recycle.


Kirk Uhler, Supervisor, District 4
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